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Hafa Adai!

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FOR FIRST TIME IN CNMI HISTORY:

Brothers duel for senatorial seat

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Paul Manglona files his candidacy, younger brother Thomas expected to file his candidacy any time

For the first time in CNMI history, two brothers are running for the same elected position.

This developed as Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) filed yesterday afternoon before the Commonwealth Election Commission his candidacy for Rota's senatorial seat.

Paul A. Manglona

Thomas A. Manglona

This means that Manglona will square off for the same position in the Nov. 8 elections against his younger brother, Thomas A. Manglona, who had already announced on Rota his intent to run.

Thomas A. Manglona is expected to file soon his candidacy under the NMI Democratic Party, multiple sources said. *Saipan Tribune* sent questions to him, but as of press time there was no reply.

Asked why he is running again, Paul Manglona said he feels that there are still many things that need to be done.

"I feel I can contribute and the best person to contribute not only to the Commonwealth but Rota in particular," the senator said.

See BROTHERS on Page 4

Two achieve dream of becoming K9 officers

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Buddy S. Igitol and Mark Joseph G. Palacios have successfully completed their training to become certified K9 officers for the Department of Public Safety and the CNMI Division of Customs Service.

Igitol and Palacios are now part of a K9 unit program that would help keep the streets and borders safe from criminal elements. Both have dreamt of being part of the program, thus joining the adminis-

See TWO on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Officer Buddy S. Igitol, left, instructs his dog "Odin" in attacking Customs detector dog specialist Mark Joseph G. Palacios in a demonstration in yesterday's detector dog handler certification and dual-purpose patrol dogs at the Tanapag Harbor.

Gullick: EB3 visa applicable for CW-1s

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

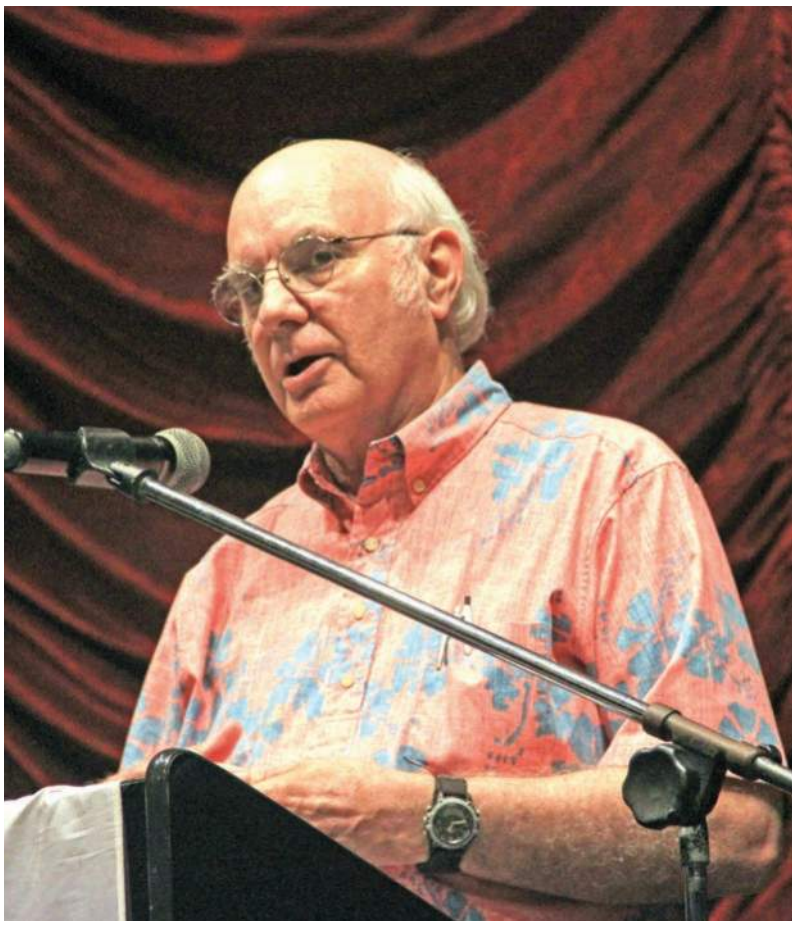
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services district director David Gullick said he sees the EB3 visa as one visa category that is applicable for guest workers that are under the CNMI only CW-1 program. Gullick spoke in front of Saipan Chamber of Commerce members in yesterday's meeting at the SandCastle Saipan of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Gullick said employers could petition their employees, especially those who have been working for years in their respective companies, for the EB3 visas. He added that much of the information is available at the USCIS website, uscis.gov.

"The most common one that we see and really applies for CW workers who have been working for you for years is what we call EB3," said Gullick.

EB3 is a type of immigrant visa for U.S. employment-based permanent residency. Professionals, skilled, and other workers are the categories under the type of visa and are not qualified for the EB1 and EB2 that are intended for workers with extraordinary abilities and

See GULLICK on Page 4



JON PEREZ

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services district director David Gullick speaks in front of Saipan Chamber of Commerce members in yesterday's meeting at the Sand Castle of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

INSIDE

NATION
Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump said Tuesday that he is refusing to endorse House Speaker Paul Ryan and Sen. John McCain.

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WORLD
Pope Francis has lamented that children are being taught at school that gender can be a choice.

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LIFE & STYLE
The parents of "Star Trek" actor Anton Yelchin filed a wrongful death lawsuit Tuesday against the makers of Jeep Grand Cherokees.

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MYTH VS FACT
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Men can't get breast cancer
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Alcohol is not linked to breast cancer
Alcohol use increases the risk of breast cancer
Only women with a family history of breast cancer are at risk
All women are at risk, but family history increases the risk
I have never had children, so I can 't get breast cancer
Women who have never had children, or only had them after 30, have increased risk of breast cancer
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Local

CHCC gets $400,000 Zika grant

Sablan

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) announced yesterday that the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will receive $400,000 in federal funds to address the threat of the Zika virus. The Centers for Disease Control awarded the money to 40 states and territories based on the risk of Zika virus transmission in the area and the availability of local funds. Total funding nationwide was $16 million.

"There have been no cases of Zika virus in the Northern Marianas to date," Sablan said. "But the congressional office has been in weekly communication with CDC and officials at the Department of Health and Human Services to make sure we are fully informed about the spread of the disease and to make sure that CHCC is getting all the assistance it needs to be fully prepared.

"Because the Marianas is a tropical area we are particularly at risk of Zika. And that fact is reflected in the amount of the total available funds that was allotted to CHCC."

Zika is a mosquito-borne virus that has been linked to birth defects, when pregnant women are infected. According to the CDC, the money awarded is to help CHCC be able to rapidly detect these adverse birth outcomes, particularly microcephaly, caused by Zika virus infection.

The funding also will help states and territories ensure that affected infants and their families are referred to appropriate health and social services and enable states and territories to monitor over time the health and developmental outcomes of children affected by Zika.

» CDC awarded $16M for 40 states, territories

In American Samoa in the Pacific and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands in the Caribbean mosquitos are already spreading the disease. American Samoa had 42 reported cases as of July 27. Puerto Rico has 4,699 cases, the Virgin Islands 21.

This week, for the first time cases of Zika, believed caused by mosquito bites, have been reported in the continental United States—in Miami, Florida. CDC reports that Florida officials are responding with mosquito control measures and a community-wide search for additional Zika cases. CDC is currently advising that pregnant women not travel to the area.

Previously, 1,658 cases of Zika had been reported in the continental United States and Hawaii, but none of these cases were the result of local mosquitos. Some cases occurred in persons who had traveled to Zika-infected areas of the world. Fifteen cases are believed to have been sexually transmitted. One was the result of a laboratory exposure. ***(PR)***

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3 charged in scheme to deposit counterfeit checks in tax rebates want to plead guilty

The three defendants facing charges for engaging in a scheme to deposit counterfeit checks, supposedly representing over $24,000 in tax rebates from the CNMI, into their bank accounts, wish to plead guilty to at least one of the charged offenses.

Defendants Brooke K. Phillips, Kenatis M. Alafanso, and Larry M. Tagabuel have also consented to the disposition of the case in the U.S. District Court of Oregon.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing, counsel for the U.S. government, submitted before the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Tuesday defendants' consent to transfer the case.

The defendants earlier requested the U.S. District Court for the NMI to transfer the venue of this case to the District of Oregon.

The Vancouver, Washington-based Phillips, through court-appointed counsel Mark B. Hanson, filed a motion for transfer of venue.

The Oregon-based Tagabuel, through court-appointed counsel David G. Banes, joined Phillips' motion to transfer venue.

Alafanso, who is residing in Vancouver, also wants to join in the motion to transfer the venue.

The indictment charged Phillips, Tagabuel, and Alafanso with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and 13 counts of wire fraud.

The defense lawyers asserted that the location of their clients and the potential witnesses, the expense to the parties, and the relative accessibility of the place of trial all weigh heavily in favor of transfer.

The indictment was returned in the CNMI and the case was transferred from the District of Oregon, where the arrests of the defendants were made, to the District of the NMI.

According to the indictment, sometime in 2015, Tagabuel received a CNMI tax rebate check for the 2014 tax year. The CNMI tax rebate check was mailed from Saipan to Tagabuel in Oregon.

Using a high-resolution scanner, an unnamed co-conspirator scanned a copy of the CNMI tax rebate check and used the image to create counterfeit checks. Each counterfeit check was printed to resemble a legitimate CNMI tax check.

Each counterfeit check had a legitimate routing number, which was assigned to the CNMI government. Various counterfeit checks were printed and made payable to the three defendants, and others.

To further the scheme, the defendants opened individual checking accounts at various banks, including U.S. Bank and Bank of America.

The defendants would deposit the counterfeit checks purporting to be tax rebate checks from the CNMI into their bank accounts. They would wait for the counterfeit checks to clear their bank account.

After the checks cleared their account and the funds were made available, each defendant would make large cash withdrawals from various ATM and branch locations in and around Portland, Oregon and Vancouver.

The defendants would share the profits obtained from their scheme with an unnamed co-conspirator in exchange for producing the fraudulent checks, according to the indictment. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicle may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is $2,500. While supplies last. **Mazda3 Sedan or Hatchback** total price is $19,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 5.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of $308.50 or $142 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $18,510.00. **Mazda6** total price is $21,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 5.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of $339.36 or $156 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $20,361.60.

Chambers conference in CUC's, affected CW-1 workers' lawsuit set

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona yesterday set a chambers conference for today, Thursday, in the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s and its 13 foreign workers' lawsuit against U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Charles Johnson and others over the CW-1 cap.

Manglona ordered the parties in the case to appear for a chambers conference at 9am.

Manglona set the chambers conference after the parties, through attorney James Sirok, counsel for CUC and its 13 foreign workers, made such request to discuss with the court new developments related to their motion for a temporary restraining order.

Sirok also informed the court about the parties' intent to convert the proceedings to a motion for a preliminary injunction.

Sirok earlier stated that the court's ruling on their lawsuit will be applicable to the thousands of CNMI-only Transitional Worker (CW-1) workers and their employers who are also affected by the CW-1 cap system.

In CUC's and its foreign workers' memorandum in support of a motion for TRO, Sirok said it is common knowledge within the community, and the CNMI in general, that the CW-1 work force is a necessary component to the livelihood of the CNMI's economy.

Sirok said while CUC and its affected CW-1 workers bring this lawsuit on their own behalf, and not as a class action, the court's ruling on their request for injunctive relief, as well as on the underlying merits of the case, will be applicable to the thousands of CW-1 workers and their employers who are currently in the same positions.

Sirok asked the court to enter immediate injunctive relief and a TRO allowing CW-1 plaintiffs to immediately return to work or continue to work whatever the situation may be.

Following the parties' request for approval of briefing schedule, Manglona earlier set the TRO hearing for Aug. 12.

CUC and its 13 foreign workers affected by CW-1 cap setting system are suing Johnson, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Sarah R. Saldana, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director Leon Rodriguez.

Sirok alleged that the failure of USCIS to make a determination on the CW renewal petitions violates the Administrative Procedure Act.

Sirok alleged that plaintiffs have suffered a legal wrong because of the conduct of defendants DHS and USCIS in setting the annual CW-1 caps for fiscal years 2013 through 2016.

Sirok said CUC will be adversely affected by the loss of these CW-1 workers in its ability to maintain and operate its power generation facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Sirok asked the court to declare that the failure of USCIS to render a determination on the CW-1 renewal petitions for the 13 workers was unlawful, contrary to law and in violation of plaintiffs' constitutional rights.

CUC employs over 300 workers, including 42 nonresident workers.

Sirok said the foreign workers' work force within CUC is an essential and necessary work force needed for the utility to provide power, water and wastewater utility services to the CNMI.

DHS set the CW-1 caps for FY 2013 at 15,000 and for FY 2014 at 14,000. For FYs 2015 and 2016, the caps were set at 13,999 and 12,999, respectively.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Carrying his granddaughter and accompanied by his nephew and niece, Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) files his candidacy for Rota senatorial seat before Commonwealth Election Commission staff yesterday afternoon. Manglona will square off against his younger brother, Thomas A. Manglona, for the same position at the Nov. 8 elections.

BROTHERS

From Page 1

Paul Manglona said his experience and with his heart, he needs to continue offering his leadership to the Commonwealth and Rota in particular.

"Rota now, the people are really suffering," he said.

The senator said what is happening now on Saipan looks very positive as investors are coming here, the real estate properties are going up, wages are somehow going up, employment opportunities are available for local people, and students have something to look forward in coming back home.

"I want to see that translate also to Rota and to Tinian," he said.

The senator said he believes that this is not the right time for him to step aside knowing what is going on and knowing that it is going to take people with strong leadership and experience and having the heart to sacrifice to get Rota and the Commonwealth back on the right track.

Asked for comments about the fact that he is running against his younger brother, Thomas, the senator said he is not running against anyone.

"I hope and I wish that I can say that they can support me. If anyone wants to run I think that this is a democratic system that we have here. But I think I can stand up to my record," said the senator as he cited that he served the people as senator for more than 26 years now.

"I think my record speaks for itself," he added.

The senator refused to comment as to the reason why his brother is also running for the same position.

Paul Manglona, a runner-up in the November 2014 election for a Senate seat for Rota, was appointed early this year to the vacant seat that Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog left when he ascended to his current post after the passing of the late governor Eloy S. Inos in December 2015.

Paul Manglona was then the longest serving member of the Legislature after 25 years, thrice as Senate president, until Hocog defeated him in the 2012 elections.

In November 2013, Paul Manglona returned to the Senate after then-acting governor Jude Hofschneider appointed him to the 18th Senate when the CNMI Supreme Court ruled that the successful candidate in the 2012 election—and not in the 2009 polls—should be appointed to the seat vacated by former Rota senator Juan M. Ayuyu.

GULLICK

From Page 1

with advanced degrees.

The EB-3 visa type has less stringent requirements but the waiting period takes longer, usually more than five years. Under the EB-3 visa, employers need to sponsor their applicants since there is no self-petition in the said category.

Gullick said that a quota system is also followed in the EB3 visa and those who applied in 2009 had received their visas this year. "There's no way to speed up the process. That's about it. So, I'm advising employers to start your labor certification process as soon as you can."

He added that employers are required to secure a permanent labor certification from the U.S. Department of Labor. "The EB3 visa is for all the other workers, first thing to do is to get the permanent labor certification from the Department of Labor."

"[Employers] must then submit a petition to the USCIS and 'say yes, I have the PLC, and the person I want to hire or needs to continue to be employed meets the qualifications of [Department of Labor].' The date you filed your petition to USCIS is already accepted for processing."

U.S. Immigration also has a non-quota system, which is for spouses of U.S. citizens and immediate relatives; and a quota system for family-based and employment-based.

"If there are a lot of numbers in the first category then they are going to use up the numbers in the next category," said Gullick.

He also advised employers that continue to hire workers with temporary status must always check the I-94s. "Check those dates and make sure they do not stay longer. We don't want to happen that you don't leave on time. CW-1s who will have to leave must get a new visa beginning Oct. 1."

TWO

From Page 1

tration's war on ice.

Officer Igitol is the handler of "Odin," a dual-purpose patrol dog. He and Officer Anthony DLG Alepuyo, with "Buoy," demonstrated what they have learned from the three months they spent at the training academy in Smyrna, Florida.

Igitol said he and Alepuyo went on training to help the dogs become obedient in all of their commands specially in apprehending or searching suspected criminals. "The course was broken down into five weeks but all in all, we trained in Smyrna for three months."

He was a member of the Special Weapons and Tactics team before deciding to become a member of the patrol dog unit. "I used to watch cops in the K9 unit on television and I love to see how the dogs help in apprehending criminals."

"When I heard that there were open slots for five [Department of Public Safety] officers, I grabbed the opportunity," said Igitol, who added that he and Alepuyo were the ones selected to undergo the training.

He said they both trained Odin and Buoy. "When we arrived at the training academy, we're given the color green as our code that means new or rookies. Both dogs were never trained so we all started from scratch and taught them to obey all our commands."

"It was hard at first but as the days go on, we see the progress. They are now patrol dogs and we are the handlers," added Igitol.

Palacios, on the other hand, said joining Customs and becoming a detector dog handler was an opportunity that he did not let past. "I used to work at [Pacific Oriental Inc.] and when I heard that there's an opening, I immediately grabbed the chance."

"It has been my dream to become a law enforcement officer. Being part of Customs is also close to that since we protect the borders and search for illegal contraband," said Palacios, who added that he and Miguel T. Magofna Jr. went through a three-month training to earn their detector dog handler certifications.

"We were offered to tryout and there was a selection process. The ones chosen for the program, part of it is based on your physical fitness. There were five of us but only two dogs were available and I was part of the two who were selected," said Palacios.

He added that it was an intense 12 weeks of training that involved searching warehouses and interiors of other establishments, and baggage and luggage. "There were written assessments after the exercises. And the final assessment involved searching various places."

JON PEREZ

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, fourth left, leads the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Division of Customs Service's X-ray facility held yesterday at the Tanapag Harbor. Others in photo are, from left, House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan), Senate vice president Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, Department of Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, Customs director Jose C. Mafnas, pastor Fred Fatiolofa, and Attorney General Edward Manibusan.

Finance chief: Customs focused on enforcement

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson said they are dedicating all the needed resources to the Division of Customs Service for enforcement and protection of the CNMI's ports—airport and seaport.

Customs held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new X-ray machine yesterday at the CNMI Customs' office at the Tanapag Harbor. The X-ray costs more than $500,000 with the funds coming from the $2.3 million collected from the Marianas Visitors Authority's hotel occupancy tax for Fiscal Year 2016.

Larson said the X-ray machine is part of Customs' enforcement compliance, which is one of Finance's major focus. "I've always said that the key to economic prosperity outside of the investments coming in is compliance in enforcement."

"The X-ray machine and detector dogs are key components toward achieving that goal. And we need to continue focusing on it. We are dedicating resources in these areas," added Larson.

She said the support and partnership done by all government law enforcement agencies kept the CNMI safe. "With your support and partnership we are successful in deterring a lot of criminal elements coming to the CNMI."

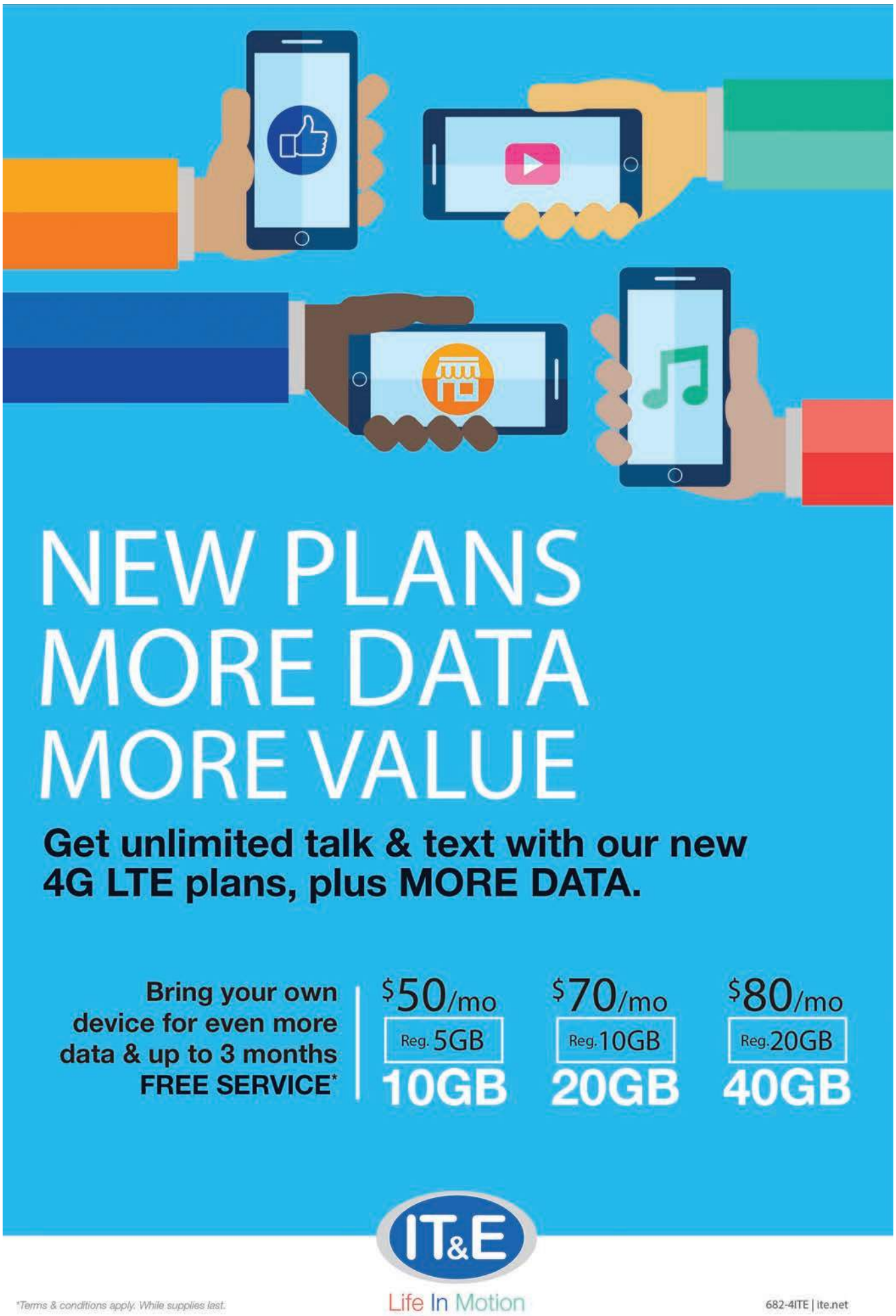
Customs director Jose C. Mafnas said the new X-ray machine is a critical need in border management. "We are here to show off our brand new equipment. X-ray machines facilitate in the movement of passengers and lessen the hours of the inspection process of goods coming in."

"It can also penetrate and find the most concealed metal, find other contraband. It is proper and needed to protect our borders," said Mafnas, who added that without the machine the inspection and search process would take Customs officers hours or days.

"Searching and inspection of 20- or 40-foot containers would last for hours or a day, and it would be a difficult task to all officers without the X-ray machine. The machine is also good for business since it would make the inspection of goods coming in easier."

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the new X-ray is also tourism-related. "Officers now have the tools and resources to make their work efficient. But be always cautious in doing your work."

The late govenor Eloy S. Inos and Torres, who was then the lieutenant governor, approved the Fiscal Year 2016 budget that allocated the money in purchasing the X-ray machine. Then Senate president Victor B. Hocog and Senate vice president Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) also pushed for the project.



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Low pressure area drifts northeast of Saipan, brings more showers

The broad area of low pressure east of the Marianas has drifted northeast of Saipan, bringing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms yesterday.

According to the U.S. National Weather Service Guam, monsoonal west winds and periods of showers and thunderstorms are expected across the Marianas through tonight, Thursday.

NWS forecast is that isolated showers and thunderstorms will occur Friday through the weekend and possibly well into next week.

As of 12noon yesterday, NWS said the center of the low-pressure area was 350 miles northeast of Saipan.

NWS said west winds will increase to 15 to 20 miles per hour by Friday with gusts of 25mph or higher at times through the weekend.

However, NWS pointed out, no damaging winds are expected.

"Any tropical cyclones that develop in this weather pattern will stay well north of the Marianas," NWS said.

Seas across the Marianas will become choppy later this week as west swell builds up to 3 to 4 feet for Friday and the weekend.

NWS again reminded the public that if they are planning any marine activities late this week to be prepared for west winds and waves and that coastal conditions possibly becoming hazardous. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Man who threw chair at cop on Rota bar gets 30-day prison term

A 20-year-old man accused of breaking several items at a bar, pushing and yelling at his father, and throwing a chair at a police officer on Rota, entered a guilty plea yesterday in the Superior Court and was slapped with a 30-day prison term.

Raymond D. Castro Jr. pleaded guilty to the offense of assault and battery.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho accepted the plea agreement and Castro's guilty plea.

Camacho sentenced Castro to one-year imprisonment, the first 30 days to be served day for day, without the possibility of parole and early release.

The defendant was given credit for 15 days for time served.

Camacho said the suspended sentence may be imposed in whole or in part for violation of law or Office of the Adult Probation rules.

After completing the prison term, Castro will be placed on supervised probation for two years, to run concurrent to his probation in his previous conviction.

Castro was ordered to pay $25 in court costs and $200 in probation fee.

During the probationary period, the defendant will be prohibited from possessing or consuming any alcoholic beverages.

Restitution will be determined, if there is any, within 90 days.

Camacho noted that Castro has a prior conviction.

Camacho said it is the Office of the Attorney General that decides what charges to file and the court can only hear the case and charge.

Last May 4, OAG filed an information charging Castro with two counts of assault and battery, and one count of criminal mischief.

Last July 26, OAG amended the information charging the defendant with only one count of assault and battery.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark, counsel for Castro, stated that OAG cannot prove the other charges that is why they were dropped.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Castro struck Police Officer Joseph Q. Camacho with a chair on May 2, 2016, on Rota. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Film fest highlights Saipan coming together after Soudelor

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council held its 2nd Annual Humanities Film Festival Tuesday night at GrandVrio Resort Saipan on the eve of the first anniversary of Typhoon Soudelor. This year's theme is "Soudelor and the Winds of Change in the CNMI."

The festival featured four student films, a narrative film, and a documentary film, which showed the different experiences of people during and after the Category 4 storm.

The student films include: "Blown Away" by Enhao Feng, Tianbo Zhang, and Beibei Chen; "Jerico & Casey Presents: Typhoon Soudelor The Documentary" by Jerico Montenejo and Casey Huliganga; "Saipan Strong" by Jobelle Tabuena and "Saipan and the Gales of Typhoon Soudelor" by Angela Felici M. Cruz.

In addition, the festival also showed a narrative film entitled "C.O.R.E. Heal Saipan" by Glen Hunter and a documentary film entitled "Soudelor. Saipan Strong." By Sveta Hunter. The winner of the film festival will be announced this Saturday, Aug. 6, at "SOU'Fest" which will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base.

One message that tied up all these films is the essence of "community." Saipan is unique because it's a place where people have genuine affinity for one another.

The underlying theme of all the films is that during times of trouble, people exert effort, however little or big to ease the pain of others. ***(Joan L. Taitano)***

JOAN L. TAITANO

Members of the community gathered at GrandVRio Resort to watch short films and documentaries that featured people's experiences during Typhoon Soudelor

Man gets five-day prison term for throwing rocks, beer can at motorist

One of two men accused of throwing rocks and/or beer can at a man while he was driving his car on Saipan in 2014, entered a guilty plea in the Superior Court on Tuesday and was slapped with a five-day prison term.

Samuel Soroyan Defan, 35, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to the offense of disturbing the peace.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa K. Kim-Tenorio accepted Defan's guilty plea and sentenced him to six months imprisonment, all suspended except five days.

Kim-Tenorio gave Defan credit for two days of time served.

After serving the prison term, the defendant will be placed on one year of supervised probation.

During the probationary period, defendant will be prohibited from possessing or consuming any alcoholic beverages or controlled substances. He will also be prohibited from having direct or indirect contact with the victim, Steve Jang.

Defan was ordered to pay $408 in restitution to Jang for damages resulting from the commission of the crime. He will be jointly liable for such restitution with his co-defendant Jason Fagalpaag.

Defan was required to pay $100 in probation fee, plus $25 in court assessment fee.

Kim-Tenorio ordered the government to serve a copy of her order to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Defan is not a U.S. citizen.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Defan threw rocks and/or beer can at Jang while he was driving, causing him to exit his vehicle and call the police on May 14, 2014.

As part of the plea deal, assistant attorney general Chester Hinds moved to dismiss the remaining charge of assault and battery. The judge granted the motion.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark served as counsel for Defan. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Forson Holding (CNMI) LLC

CANCELLED

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Forson Holding (CNMI) LLC is proposing to renovate and utilize six (06) existing buildings for employee quarters with staff amenities. The applicant also proposes to fabricate and process building components in another existing warehouse. These uses are classified as "Institutional Residential" and "Manufacturing/Processing" respectively and are permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Tanapag on Lot 030 B 21. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: August 11, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 10, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

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Ladies Low Gross (2day):	1st Place	$500+Royal Salute LE Diamond+Triple J Winner Ditty Bag
	2nd Place	$400+Chivas 18YO LE Pininfarina2+Triple J Winner Ditty Bag
	3rd Place	$300+Chivas 12YO+Triple J Winner Ditty Bag
Ladies Low Net (2day):	1st Place	Royal Salute LE Diamond+Triple J Winner Ditty Bag
	2nd Place	Chivas 18YO LE Pininfarina2+Triple J Winner Ditty Bag
	3rd Place	Chivas 12YO+Triple J Winner Ditty Bag

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GOLD: SCS Saipan Computer Services, IT&E, Tan Holdings, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc., Bridge Capital LLC, Miller Lite, Pepsi, AK, Toyota, Let's Go Places, Nike Golf, Triple J Motors, Joeten Motors, docomo pacific

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BRONZE: Ajisen Ramen • Best Sunshine • Calvo Insurance • Chelu Photos • Chong's Corporation • Dial-Rent-to-Own Empress Inc. • First Hawaiian Bank • GPPC • Herman's Modern Bakery • Island Training Solutions • KKMP Kautz Glass • Marianas Noni • McDonald's • Pacific Islands Club • Saipan Travel Inc. • TDI • Triple B Forwarders

GENERAL: Ace Hardware • Cargo Express • Century Hotel • Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan • G4S • Island Apparel • JC Tenorio Enterprises • JET Holdings Kanoa Resort • NMC • Mariana Resort & Spa • Pena House Boutique • Saipan Ice & Water • Saipan Shipping Co. • Tribe Marianas

For more information contact Marida Pensader at 236-2530 or Nicole Babauta at 236-2553.

Assateague welcomes new commanding officer

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Coast Guard Cutter *Assateague* held a Change of Command ceremony took place last July 29 at Victor Wharf on Naval Base Guam.

The Change of Command saw Lieutenant Evin D. Moses relieve Lieutenant Sarah E. Ernst as the Commanding Officer of the *Assateague.*

SANTA RITA, Guam— Lieutenant Evin D. Moses relieved Lieutenant Sarah E. Ernst as the Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Cutter *Assateague.*

The Coast Guard Cutter *Assateague*'s Change of Command took place last July 29 at Victor Wharf on Naval Base Guam. The ceremony was presided by Commander James C. Campbell, Deputy Commander Coast Guard Sector Guam. Special guests included Commander Brent J. Emery, Officer in Charge, Coastal Riverine Group ONE, Detechment Guam. Family, friends, Coasties and fellow service members all joined to wish Lieutenant Ernst fair winds and following seas as she embarks on life's new journey.

Lieutenant Ernst graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 2006 and previously served onboard the USCGC Polar Sea as a Deck Watch Officer and as the Executive Office onboard USCGC Liberty homeported in Juneau, Alaska. Lieutenant Ernst served as the Commanding Officer of the USCGC *Assateague* from June 2014 to July 2016.

Lieutenant Moses graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 2012 and previously served onboard the USCGC *Thetis* as a Deck Watch Officer and as the Assistant Operations Officer onboard USCGC *Waesche* out of Alameda, California.

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored tradition and formal ritual conducted before the assembled company of a command to confirm to the men and women of the unit that the authority of command is maintained. The ceremony is a transfer of total responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another.

USCGC *Assateague* is the 37th of 49 "Island Class" cutters measuring 110 feet in length and was built by Bollinger Machine Shop and Shipyard in Lockport, Louisiana. The *Assateague* is an excellent platform to conduct Search and Rescue response, Ports Waterways and Coastal Security operations, and enforces Laws and Treaties of the United States of America to protect and defend the people of Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, and Federated States of Micronesia. ***(PR)***

WIC is celebrating World Breastfeeding Week in August!

This year's theme "Breastfeeding: A key to Sustainable Development" is about how breastfeeding is a key element in getting us to think about how to value our wellbeing from the start of life, how to respect each other and care for the world we share.

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NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Surfrider Resort Spa & Beach Club

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Surfrider Resort Spa & Beach Club is requesting to amend its Conditional Use Permit #2013-0270 and approved site development plan to reflect changes in parking layout, building design, and height. This proposal is located on Lots 008 H 29, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37 & 012 H 20. These areas are located west of Beach Road and next to Sandy Beach Homes in Chalan Kanoa. These areas are zoned as Tourist Resort.

Date: August 11, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 10, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan. For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

Independent candidates hope to form coalition if victorious

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nine reelectionists from the House of Representatives, two first-time candidates, and one hoping to return to the Senate joined together to form a group of independents that will be seeking seats in the CNMI Legislature.

Reelectionists Reps. Blas Jonathan Attao, Anthony Tenorio Benavente, Roman C. Benavente, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Vinnie E. Sablan, Ramon Aingalen Tebuteb, and Ralph N. Yumul had already filed their certificates of candidacy.

Attao, Deleon Guerrero, Roman C. Benavente, Sablan, and Ralph N. Yumul filed their respective COCs Tuesday at the Commonwealth Election Commission at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center together with rookie candidate Joseph Arriola Flores and former senator Ray N. Yumul.

Reps. Tebuteb and Anthony T. Benavente were the first to file their COCs separately. Incumbent Reps. Edwin K. Propst and Edmund S. Villagomez are expected to turn in their respective COCs within the week. Danny Aquino, another candidate, has yet to file his candidacy before the Aug. 10 deadline.

Tebuteb, who accompanied his colleagues Thursday, said the independent block began in the 19th Legislature where he and others who are seeking reelection came together. "What we did is come together with the focus and intent of accountability. Our group is composed of individuals who are united not necessarily because of party principles."

Ray Yumul, who ran for lieutenant governor in the last election, said he decided to make another run in the Senate after consulting with the group and other concerned individuals who wanted him to continue his public service. "We're sort of a support group that is united with the same goals and ideas. We just often meet and share ideas."

If elected again, he would focus on infrastructure, finding solutions to the problems at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and education. "I have been a proponent of developing infrastructure the right way and when it comes to utilities, the high cost is a burden and we must find ways on how to live comfortably minus the high rates."

Tebuteb added that CUC's problems must be treated positively. "We need to face CUC's problems with optimism. Their problems impacts us all, whether in business or in government."

Yumul said their group would also focus on education. "We must keep standards to produce high caliber graduates in or society and so that our community could also grow intellectually."

That's why Attao filed House Bill 19-183 that would appropriate $6 million form the casino business gross revenue tax to the CNMI Public School System. A third of the $6 million, if it becomes a law, will be used for payment of PSS's CUC obligations and for school bus drivers overtime pay and salary increase. HB 19-183 is still pending at the Ways and Means Committee.

"Another portion would also assist the Chamorro-Carolinian bilingual program and for putting more teachers in the special education program," added Attao.

Rep. Vinnie Sablan, meanwhile, would continue to push for his environmental bills. "Trash has become a problem here on our islands especially in the beaches. It is tougher to visit the tourist sites since some people leave their trash."

JON PEREZ

Incumbent representatives who are seeking reelection this year join their families and supporters after filing their respective certificates of candidacy at the Commonwealth Elections Commission Tuesday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Marianas Behavioral Health International Inc.

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Marianas Behavioral Health International Inc. is proposing to operate a drug & alcohol rehabilitation center. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on Lot TR.22507-29, along Haiguas Lane in As Perdido. This area is zoned as Rural.

Date: August 11, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 10, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

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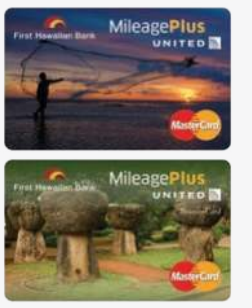
Memories to create.



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Guam/Saipan	**Eastern U.S. Cities**	$1,347.05	$1,427.05	5 days	30 days	SEP 16, 2016 - DEC 14, 2016 JAN 16, 2017 - APR 30, 2017	AUG 31, 2016

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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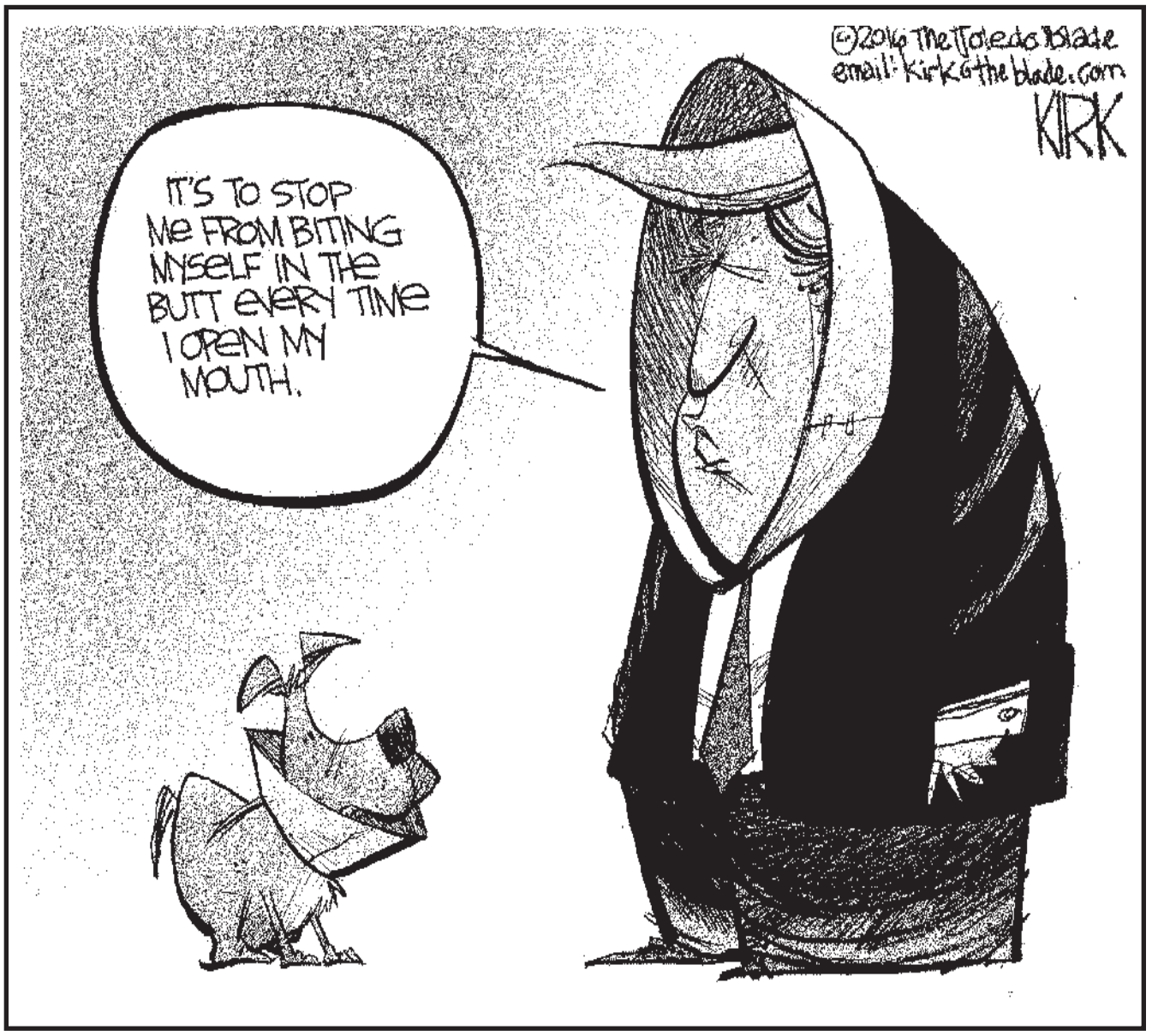

EDITORIAL

Time for Republicans to stand up to Donald Trump

In was in late June when Rep. David Valadao of California did something that so many other Republicans have refused to do. He withdrew his initial support of then-presumptive presidential nominee Donald Trump.

"I've just been sitting back and watching," the congressman said at a banquet. "I think it's just been the campaign in general." He just couldn't endorse a candidate who "denigrates people based on their ethnicity, religion or disabilities."

To this day, Valadao is one of the few Republicans who has walked back his endorsement of Trump, even though the reasons to do so are multiplying by the day, if not hourly.

Others — such as House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, Reps. Jeff Denham, Doug LaMalfa and congressional candidate Scott Jones — have dodged questions or just weaseled, issuing statements that condemn Trump's words but uphold their support.

What will it take for rank-and-file Republicans to back away? When will enough be enough?

We're waiting. Because for the past two weeks, the real estate magnate has been on a particularly despicable tear, saying and doing things once unthinkable for a presidential candidate.

There's the Gold Star family he has attacked, cruelly belittling the Muslim parents of an American soldier, Capt. Humayun Khan, who was killed while protecting his soldiers in Iraq.

There's Russia, an adversary that has garnered not only Trump's praise, but his ignorance. His responses to questions about Russia's presence in Ukraine and the threat to neighboring Crimea were at best muddled, at worst dangerous.

And on Tuesday, Trump childishly retaliated against the scorn he's received for those actions. He singled out House Speaker Paul Ryan and Sen. John McCain, both of whom have issued stinging rebukes, saying he won't support them in their upcoming primary elections.

This from the man who wants to be the commander in chief of the U.S. military and leader of the free world. He wants to be the face of the United States — and, on Tuesday, he derisively kicked a mother and her baby out of one of his rallies. "I think she really believed me that I love having a baby crying while I'm speaking," he told the crowd.

These aren't minor gaffes. They're character-defining moments that offer a glimpse of a man with poor judgment, questionable moral fiber and zero control of his mouth.

Even Trump's running mate, Mike Pence, has had a tough time defending him. Pence's son is a Marine.

President Barack Obama was right to call out the Republican Party's hypocrisy on Tuesday. Echoing com-

See TIME on Page 11

Paul Ryan is the answer

By JAY AMBROSE
Tribune News Service

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.

Donald Trump's campaign strategy — an outrage a day to keep the voters away — seems to be setting him back quite successfully, and Hillary Clinton, therefore, appears ever closer to making history as the least trusted person to be elected president.

In that event, we would need something to help save us not just from character gone provably amiss or demonstrated ineptness but also from exuberantly leftist policies threatening dismal disasters. My suggested solution: House Speaker Paul Ryan, though obviously not as a presidential candidate.

I am instead talking about his campaign to keep Republicans in control of the House and, as a conceivable byproduct, the Senate, too, thereby enabling resistance to White House misadventures. Surprisingly enough in this election year, Ryan is out there talking like an honest, intelligent, knowledgeable adult to the American people, explaining key positions endorsed by the Republican majority in the House and thus showing how the GOP could indeed be worthy of votes.

The advocated policies are not angry, partisan shouts. Rather, they proffer pragmatic, prudent, principled solutions to key problems. Ryan himself has made it clear Republicans would be happy to engage in reasonable discussion if Congress were accorded its rightful due at the negotiating table.

Under the Constitution, after all, Congress is co-equal in power with the president. It has not seemed that way under President Barack Obama, who would rather issue a legally dubious executive order and divisively lambaste Republicans as stupid than sit down and work things out in a balanced way. Ryan and his colleagues want to quell executive overreaching and, in a thoughtful, crucially corrective policy paper, have outlined what Congress could do to re-establish its rightful checks-and-balances authority.

An example is regularly revisiting agencies and their missions to reshape them as needed, eliminating interventions that unconscionably afflict daily life, accomplish little and betray the principle of consent of the governed. Congress itself, the policy paper says, should quit passing overly broad bills that let the administrative state fill in blanks to the liking of the anonymous, unaccountable overlords known as bureaucrats.

Get these sorts of things done, and Congress could then play a major role in such crucial needs as getting the slow-Joe economy bopping again. That's doable through tax reforms leading to more private investment that then leads to higher wages and more jobs. Another part of this Ryan-GOP agenda, adjudicated as on-target by reputable experts, is rolling back downright oppressive regulatory overkill of businesses and giving increased prosperity a chance.

We now come to something many do not expect from Republicans, an anti-poverty scheme that may be the best the country has ever seen.

While Clinton seeks the same old stuff in flashier dress, likely to leave people governmentally dependent, Ryan wants to help people flourish through programs constantly measured for their effectiveness and replaced when they don't get the job done. In reviewing the details, a top poverty expert — Ron Haskins of the Brookings Institution — says what we could have here is the start of major, highly needed reform that Democrats could also embrace with some of their ideas thrown in.

The issues hardly end here — there are issues of debt and education and foreign policy and on and on, but the answer is not that it has to be all one way or the other. Given enough votes for Republicans in congressional races, it can be something effective that lets everyone go home happy, including the American people.

In a State of the Union speech, President Obama mentioned Ryan's ability to compromise, and Clinton's vice presidential pick, Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia, referred to the same gift recently in a televised interview. With a Clinton presidency, the issue with a GOP House and likely a GOP Senate would only be stalemate if that's what the White House wanted. What you would have instead is protection against the worst of times and encouragement for the best of times.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Grotto…gone

Strap a scuba tank on your back and join me for an imaginary 40-minute dive at our Grotto, the world's No. 1 (or No. 2, depending upon who you read) dive spot. It's a dazzling sight, isn't it? The clear water, the tropical fish, but what catches the eye the most are the corals of many colors, shapes, and sizes. What does it for me are the fan corals. Now, imagine how much damage could be done to this area by one person in a single, 40-minute dive...it would be over—the Grotto would be "forever" (well, 100-200 years would seem like forever, wouldn't it?) changed. Could we cover up such an act? Nope, no chance to replace our priceless, damaged corals with plastic replicas or 3-D projections. Besides, news of the damage would spread around the globe within 24 hours.

I'm not certain what the complete solution might be in protecting this asset. I know that one solution—the complete removal of the human element—is unacceptable. Nor do I know what others, facing similar predicaments, are doing. I know that PADI or NAUI certification attests to a person's basic knowledge and ability to use standard scuba gear. But it says nothing of the person's mental disposition—their intent. So let me offer a couple ideas that might go towards making up the whole of a solution to protect.

First, I would suggest the discrete installation of underwater surveillance equipment for the purpose of both catching someone early in "the act" and to document any destruction. This means that there would be someone monitoring the video feed and who is able to act himself/herself or call to action someone close to the scene to interrupt the damage being done and detain the person caught doing such a thing. It would be very similar to an active retail surveillance system.

I wonder if upgrading the site to a state or national park might increase the flow of money for such immediate responses and protection as well as raise the legal stakes for the offender?

For those of you who don't think that this could happen: It's already begun. A gift shop at one of our tourist destinations is (well, was) selling corals harvested from the Grotto...and they were proud of the fact that they harvested them from Saipan's waters. I believe that CRM Enforcement brought an end to that practice and this harvesting by one, has ended. But are there others? How many more commercial collectors or tourists are nibbling away at the one resource, the Grotto, that generates millions of dollars for the CNMI economy? We are world-renowned for being slow to respond or not responding to such matters at all. Maybe now is the time to act?

Gary A. Liddle
Capitol Hill

Thinking vs reality and philosophy: A perspective of legalization

We all have a tendency to say or promote what we think which is a major characteristic of all humans that separate us from all the other species on planet Earth. But what are thinkers basing their thoughts on? Is it experience, facts, fiction, or just guessing? The true challenge to thinking is the "Art" of taking into consideration all of the factors or realities and potential factors that could generate futuristic outcomes to make a determination of what we as humans should do in a situation, to live, to grow and even prosper during our time on Earth. We apply thinking to almost everything we do and the amazing thing is we think without even knowing it because certain things become natural in our thinking process. Earth has been blessed with the gift of some great thinkers going back thousands of years but the problem is many of the important thoughts of these great thinkers were never accepted by the mainstream society of their time and it wasn't until they were long dead and gone as to their true brilliance. Our ability to think can also be very debilitating to our ability to listen- as the saying goes "they think they know everything and you can't tell them nothing" for true! Just think if mankind would have truly listen to some of our great thinkers or philosophers and how much further along our evolutionary progress would be today. The real challenge is we as humans don't all think the same way to move in the same direction unlike all the other species whose behavior is totally imbedded in their nature and doesn't change from mothering instincts to migration instincts.

Unlike animals whose evolutionary development is driven solely by their nature and environmental changes, which is beyond their control, humans have almost total control over our evolution, which is still in progress on this planet for those who have forgotten this very important fact. The first challenge to human's evolution was to learn and become civilized enough to live with and evolve as civilized societies. Human have faced many challenges in our evolution and as we can all see the human race has survived and even grew to prosper. However, challenges like terrorism, poverty, slavery. and many others will continue as we evolve until they are overcome. But I'm writing this about a much smaller and a much simpler challenge that humans face with a simple herb plant as humans are finally taking another tiny evolutionary step with the legalization of marijuana.

I have heard many people say what they think about legalization and wonder do they realize how ridiculous they sound but I'm glad that the majority of people everywhere legalization is offered have approved it with only one exception in Ohio because the bill was so poorly written and shortsighted. Some people think we should not legalize it at all, others think we should only have medical marijuana legal, and there is the growing majority who want full legalization. There are many different reasons why those who think humans should say no to marijuana or only marijuana for medical use but please consider the following realities and philosophy when you think about the legalization of marijuana. Marijuana was given to mankind to use—true reality. The feds have already given up on marijuana eradication in most of America because of federal reforms by the President and it will forever be growing as marijuana is part of our planet's nature. The U.S. Attorney General and even the Supreme Court of America are allowing states to enact their own legalization laws to "reform" our criminal justice system.

The CNMI has established a Drug Court that we all should know was done to fight "ice," not to be flooded with frivolous marijuana crimes that are not even a crime in many states with 23 other states putting legalization on the ballot this year. Think about the true reality that the legalization for medical use alone does not work and it really creates more marijuana crimes by people trying to purchase legal marijuana through illegal means. While I will be the first to say there have been some isolated incidents of bad experiences with marijuana that was mainly because of "ignorance and not adhering to the protocols for using marijuana," but all of the major concerns and arguments against legalization have been debunked. But most importantly, legalization is an economic green gold mine, which is why virtually every state is considering or has plans for the ballot.

So if you are truly thinking about the legalization of marijuana you must consider the realities of legalization. But please don't play god and try to think you can predict when CNMI society is ready to legalize marijuana because no one knows exactly what all of our society wants and is ready for. But I will say any society on earth that avoids the reality of change and our evolution is one that doesn't get it. Humans have mastered every challenge we have faced and we shouldn't fear dealing with a simple non-threatening plant to our health that is commonly used and acceptable throughout the planet. The question of when will all humans agree to the simple fact and reality that we as humans must eventually learn how to live with marijuana in our society using a different method or philosophy than making marijuana use a crime, as criminalization does not work and is even counterproductive to our evolution as humans fighting a wasteful ridiculous war against pot.

The realities are clearly dictating an economic, philosophical and sociological evolutionary step has dawned on the horizon for humans to take with legalization spreading like a wildfire through America. Will you help the CNMI take a step forward with full legalization of will you try to prevent or delay the inevitable progress in our evolution in the CNMI? Legalization is about much more than just medicine or getting high, it is about the evolution of our society in the CNMI in finally learning how to live with marijuana, which we can do if we all come together to face the challenge and if we all work together to master the challenge. The people of the CNMI have always been the masters of our fate and now we need everyone or at least the majority to go in the right direction together on the right path for evolving and true progress.

I'm humbly and respectfully appealing to readers to really think about the realities and to choose the right path for full legalization based on the realities and the facts which are literally dictating a philosophy for evolving as humans driven by nature's never ending production of marijuana and our very nature to use marijuana as humans on planet Earth—we can't beat nature. Everyone who has truly tried to educate themselves about marijuana should now know that the entire world was misled in making marijuana illegal and we should use our ability to think in correcting this error in our evolution. There are literally hundreds of millions waiting to address the medical, social, and economic needs of the CNMI—do we want them? One people one direction for full legalization if you are truly thinking!

The only remaining challenges are making sure the best possible legislation is passed that must go through two houses and the governor and convincing enough for the people to approve the legalization of marijuana.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman

TIME

From Page 10

ments from outgoing Rep. Richard Hanna, a Republican from New York, he declared Trump "unfit" and "woefully unprepared to be president."

"There has to be a point at which you say, this is not somebody I can support for president of the United States, even if he purports to be a member of my party," Obama said. "The fact that that has not yet happened makes some of these denunciations ring hollow."

In a response reminiscent of "I'm rubber, you're glue, whatever you say bounces off me and sticks to you," Trump declared Obama "is the one who is unfit to be president."

Republicans can't un-nominate Trump, but faced with these cruel antics, they can certainly do more than straddle a fence. This guy's a bully, and being afraid to stand up to him is no badge of honor. Enough is enough.

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The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. West winds 15 to 20 mph.
▲87° ▼77°

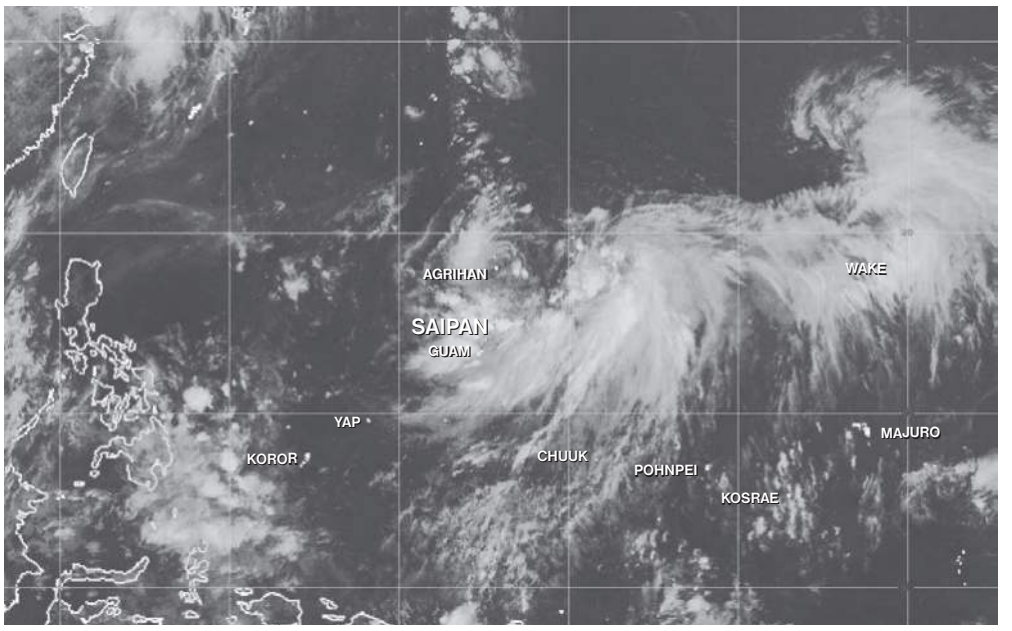
FRIDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.
▲89° ▼78°

SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Breezy at times.
▲87° ▼79°

SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Breezy at times.
▲88° ▼79°

MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 4:49 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Mostly cloudy skies with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms prevail over the Marianas this morning. A broad weak circulation is present to the east-northeast of Saipan near 15N149E. Gentle west- northwest winds are seen across the region. Latest model run maintains a fairly wet pattern across the Marianas for the next several days. The GFS has been the most inconsistent with shower coverage, so chose to maintain current forecast of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms through Thursday night, with isolated showers and thunderstorms Friday on through the weekend. If the latest run is right, scattered showers could continue through the weekend as well as the monsoon circulation continues to slowly develop and drift to the north- northwest.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam And Rota	Strong thunderstorms	85 / 92 °F
Palau	Partly sunny	80 / 86 °F
Yap	Afternoon clouds	80 / 90 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	80 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Strong thunderstorms	80 / 88 °F
Kosrae	Afternoon clouds	81 / 87 °F
Majuro	Partly sunny	83 / 87 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Partly cloudy	48 / 54 °F
Beijing	Partly cloudy	74 / 92 °F
Hong Kong	Heavy rain	81 / 87 °F
Honolulu	Partly sunny	75 / 85 °F
London	Showers	64 / 72 °F
Los Angeles	Partly sunny	66 / 80 °F
Manila	Partly sunny	79 / 92 °F
Melbourne	Sunny	40 / 56 °F
Miami	Partly sunny	82 / 88 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	66 / 82 °F
Osaka	Partly sunny	74 / 93 °F
Paris	Showers	61 / 69 °F
Pusan	Partly sunny	79 / 90 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	68 / 95 °F
Salem	Sunny	56 / 89 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	56 / 65 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	72 / 93 °F
Tokyo	Morning clouds	76 / 89 °F
Washington, DC	Cloudy	68 / 83 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
3:26 AM	LOW TIDE	0.87 Feet
8:33 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.87 Feet
3:35 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.08 Feet
10:06 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.9 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Friday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM
Sunday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM
Monday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	6:57 AM	7:45 PM
Friday	7:49 AM	8:28 PM
Saturday	8:40 AM	9:09 PM
Sunday	9:28 AM	9:48 PM
Monday	10:16 AM	10:27 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 6, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Foundation leads $100K Leafy Greens Project to support Saipan farmers

The P.D. Hemlani Foundation, Ltd. was awarded a $64,000 Rural Business Development Grant by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide technical assistance to farmers pn Saipan. The awarded grant funds, along with an over $40,000 donation of resources from PDHF, will be used to fulfill the "Leafy Greens Project" in Saipan which aims to assist local farmers in the production and sale of leafy green vegetables.

PDHF will administer the Leafy Greens Project in partnership with Farm to Table Guam, a nonprofit corporation whose goals include diversifying and expanding the capacity of the local farming industry; contributing to the economic betterment of the community by supporting existing farmers and creating jobs related to farming; and promoting healthy lifestyles by encouraging everyone to eat fresh and nutritious food grown locally.

"PDHF is pleased to receive the USDA Rural Business Development Grant. The award allows our foundation to expand its resources and deliver what we hope to be the first of many programs to assist the communities of the CNMI and Guam," said Elicia Santo Tomas, PDHF operations manager and Leafy Greens Project director.

PDHF and FTT will work with local Saipan farmers, the CNMI Division of Agriculture, and Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service. The Leafy Green Project aims to increase the farmer's technical skills in areas of business planning, sales and marketing, and sustainable practices. Through multiple working sessions, farmers have the opportunity to come together to discuss their challenges and connect with resources to address them. Melanie Mendiola, FTT Project director will facilitate and conduct much of the training with the assistance of other agricultural professionals.

"FTT's goal is to grow healthy businesses and create more jobs in the agricultural community. It is not just about knowing how to grow crops, it is also about refining business skills so that farmers offer consistency, value, and a beautiful final product to the customer. This is how they will support their families, and ultimately grow a more sustainable economy," said Mendiola.

Agnes M. McPhetres, PDHF board member and CEO of the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, said, "Hands on learning is key in vocational education. The Northern Marianas Trades Institute prepares students to the enter the job market and is excited that the Leafy Greens Project will be in Saipan. The project will not only assist existing farmers, but will help cultivate new farmers by inviting interested students to attend lectures about agriculture and business sustainability."

PDHF's mission is to enhance the quality of life of individuals, families and communities by creating opportunities and providing assistance for continued growth in health, education and social welfare throughout Guam and the Northern Marianas.

Saipan farmers who are interested in learning about the Leafy Greens Project or attending lectures should contact Elicia Santo Tomas of PDHF at (671)647-0389 or esantotomas@pdhfoundation.org. ***(PR)***

Coast Guard medevacs man from motor vessel off of Oahu

HONOLULU, Hawaii—The U.S. Coast Guard medically evacuated a 37-year-old Filipino man experiencing severe abdominal pain while aboard the motor vessel Bunga Kasturi Enam, approximately 34 miles north of Oahu, Tuesday.

At approximately 6 a.m., an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point successfully hoisted the man and transported him to Queen's Medical Center in stable condition.

At 12:28 a.m., Friday, watchstanders at the Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center received a relayed report from Coast Guard Pacific Area command that the motor vessel Bunga Kasturi Enam, had a crewmember aboard who was experiencing severe abdominal pain.

A Coast Guard flight surgeon was consulted and recommended a medevac as soon as the motor vessel was close enough to shore for aircrews to conduct a hoist.

"Great job by the watch teams at the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in monitoring the developing serious situation of a crewmember aboard the Bunga Kasturi Enam," said Lt. Zachary McCune, a pilot at Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point and one of two pilots for this case. "Thanks to their planning and coordination, Air Station Barbers Point was able to successfully hoist an ailing mariner and safely deliver him to a higher level of care at Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu." ***(PR)***

Local commercial a semifinalist in national bank competition

» Bank of Guam's Ifit 5K judged by 66 professionals

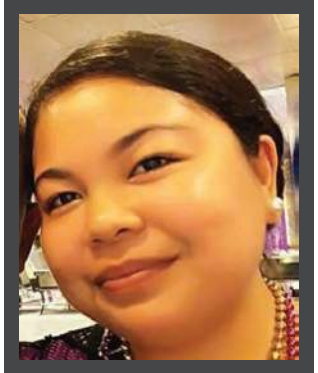
HAGATNA, Guam—The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Bank of Guam are proud to announce that the American Bankers Association (ABA) has named its "Bank of Guam Ifit 5K Run" commercial one of four semi-finalists among nearly 400 entries in a national bank competition. The entries were judged by 66 judges from around the country, and the scores account for 2/3 of the final score.

The semi-finalist videos are now open for public voting at www.ababankmarketing.com/contest/ and results will account for 1/3 of the score. The combined judging and public voting scores will produce two finalists from each category, and the winner will be announced at the annual ABA Marketing Conference in Nashville, Tennessee in September.

Lou Leon Guerrero, Bank of Guam president, chief executive officer, and board chair stated, "We are immensely proud of our Ifit 5K Run commercial, which was locally developed and produced, and speaks strongly to our culture and heritage. To support this local production, you can go to www.ababankmarketing.com/contest/ and select the "Bank of Guam Ifit 5K Run" piece in the $1billion to $5billion category."

For additional information, please contact Jackie Marati at (671) 688-5305. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The best way to enjoy life is to forget your age and just remember your memories happy 27th birthday to Ashley Ada Richards who will be celebrating her special day today, Aug. 4, 2016. Wishing you more blessings coming your way.

The CNMI WIC Program is celebrating

WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2016

BREASTFEEDING

A KEY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Breastfeeding significantly improves the health, development and survival of infants and children. It also contributes to improved health and wellbeing of mothers, both in the short and long term.

To think about:

What does breastfeeding look like in your community? How many hospitals or maternity facilities are Baby-Friendly?

Come join us for the 5K World Breastfeeding Week Walk at the FILCOM Pavilion on Saturday August 6, 2016 for free health screenings, a fun walk and free t-shirts, water bottles and tote bags (supplies are limited).

Registration starts at 6:30 am and the event will end 9:30 am. See you there!

For more information call the CNMI WIC Clinic at 664-4084.

For all other FNS nutrition assistance programs, State or local agencies, and their subrecipients, must post the following Nondiscrimination Statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination

Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Follow us on Instagram @cnmiwicbfpc and like us on Facebook CNMI WIC Program Breastfeeding Peer Counselor.

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Cosco Marissa Walker $55.95

Glacier Bay Vanity Pro 24" Amber Combo $289.95

Cosco Step Stool Max Work Platform $63.95

Dorel Side Table $24.95

Essential Home Grayson Armoire $199.95

$79.95 Disney Toddler Bed

Sauder Entertainment Cabinet $199.95

Essential Home Multi-Bin Organizer Storage Unit $52.95

Intex Exotic Reef 6ft Snapset Pool $15.95

Clearwater Character Split Swim Rings $2.95

Max Liquidator Eliminator $5.95

Metal Rake with Wooden Handle $4.95

Northwest Territory 8ftx10ft Green Tarp $7.95

Pocket Hose 75ft Top Brass Hose $49.95

$129.95 Toro Electric Ultra Blower Vac

$149.95 Glacier Bay Dual Flush High-Efficiency Toilet

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Business

Paid family leave benefits rising in some sectors, regions

NEW YORK (AP)—The call for paid family leave on the Democratic party platform is the most ambitious attempt by a major party in years to reverse the United States' status as the only industrialized nation without any standard for paid time off for new parents. But over the last five years a handful of states and some industries have been quietly increasing this benefit.

Last week's convention put paid family leave on the list of workplace election issues along with the minimum wage and equal pay. The Democrats say they will try to secure up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave to care for a new child. While the Republican platform makes no specific reference to paid family leave, the GOP in 2015 called for establishing a "flexible credit hour program" in which workers could exchange overtime hours worked for future leave time.

While Americans generally support paid family leave—a poll conducted this spring by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that 72 percent of Americans 40 and older support the benefit—efforts to adopt a national standard haven't gone anywhere. Advocates are now more hopeful. "It's taken on an inevitability," said Ellen Bravo, executive director of Family Values @ Work, an advocacy group. "Not that it will happen by itself, that it will take work. It took a decade to get the first three states."

More reason for optimism is that a few states and several competitive industries have slowly been bolstering paid parental leave laws and policies.

Here's a look at the current best and worst industries and regions with regard to paid family leave benefits.

AP

In this Friday, Sept. 25, 2015, file photo, Facebook Chairman and CEO Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, arrive for a State Dinner in honor of Chinese President Xi Jinping, in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

BEST INDUSTRIES

The technology sector leads the private sector in parental leave offerings.

About 30 percent of tech workers had access to paid family leave, up from 23 percent in 2011, a Bureau of Labor Statistics survey from March 2015 found. That's nearly triple the average of all industries. About 12 percent of workers overall had access to paid family leave in 2015, up just slightly from 11 percent in 2011.

Netflix made a media splash last year when it changed its policy to allow new mothers and fathers up to a year off. Etsy gives new parents up to 26 weeks off, while Google offers 12 weeks of paid time, and Microsoft has expanded its offering to 20 weeks.

Facebook offers 16 weeks of paid leave to new parents, and CEO Mark Zuckerberg made headlines when he took two months off to care for his new daughter.

The industries that shine tend to compete for workers globally where other nations and companies offer generous benefits. "For many companies, this is a business issue," Bravo said. "It's about retaining and attracting talent."

Such industries include the financial sector. Bank of America, Merrill Lynch and Citi all offer more than 12 weeks of paid parental leave.

Recently, Ernst & Young boosted its paid parental leave to 16 weeks from 12 weeks and made the entire amount available to both men and women. The company's benefits also include a career and family transition program that gives new moms and dads a coach to help them better balance work and family.

Lindsay Abt, a partner in the company's audit practice, cited its leave policy as a key asset in helping her adjust to being a new parent.

"As a new mom, you're trying to figure out what that means along with a new schedule. With the leave I took, by the time I went back to work, I felt I was in a good routine," she said.

BEST PLACES

California allows workers to receive 55 percent of their pay for up to six weeks, through a state insurance program funded by workers. A new San Francisco law requires private employers within the city to make up the remainder of a new parent's full pay for six weeks.

Starting in 2018, New York workers will become eligible to take up to 12 weeks paid time off to care for a new child or sick relative. The benefit will be funded by worker payroll contributions and will start at 50 percent of an employee's weekly wage up to the statewide average.

New Jersey law allows new parents to receive two-thirds of their average weekly wage for up to six weeks during a 12 month period or until benefits equal to one-third of total wages during their base year, whichever is less.

In 2013, Rhode Island amended its temporary disability law to include caregivers and new parents. The benefit, funded by an employee payroll tax, allows for up to four weeks paid leave at about 60 percent of one's wages with a maximum weekly benefit of $795 per week.

WORST INDUSTRIES

Traditional "blue collar" jobs remain the weakest for paid family leave. For those working in the service, manufacturing, farming or construction industries, worker access to paid family leave is mostly under 10 percent and stagnant, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data from 2015 and 2011.

WORST PLACES

The Labor Department says workers in the East South Central region—which includes Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee—are the least likely to have access to paid family leave. Only about 7 percent of workers in those states had access to paid family benefits, while every other region came in between 10 and 15 percent.

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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF AS GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE OF A.D.K.S. (DOB: 9/16/2002) Minor Child BY CAROLYN SOLOMON Petitioner	))))))))	FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0365 **NOTICE OF HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardian for the estate of the above-named minor child by Carolyn Solomon, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Superior court before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo on the 11th day of August, 2016 at 10:30a.m. or as soon thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

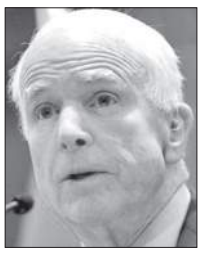
Nation

In blow to GOP unity, Trump refuses to back Ryan, McCain

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP)—Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump said Tuesday that he is refusing to endorse House Speaker Paul Ryan and Sen. John McCain, two of the party's most powerful members. He also ripped into New Hampshire Sen. Kelly Ayotte in the same interview with the Washington Post. All three have primary challengers and each disapproved of Trump's criticism of the Muslim American parents of an Army captain killed in Iraq.

Trump's rebuke to Ryan carried particular derision.

"I'm just not there yet," Trump said in an interview with The Washington Post, closely echoing Ryan's demurral before he endorsed Trump, telling CNN on May 6, "I'm not there right now."


McCain

Trump—who on Monday tweeted kind words for the speaker's underdog primary opponent, Wisconsin businessman Paul Nehlen—told The Washington Post that Ryan had asked for his support, a claim the Speaker's spokesman denied.

"Neither Speaker Ryan nor anyone on his team has ever asked for Donald Trump's endorsement," said Zack Roday, Ryan's campaign spokesman. "And we are confident in a victory next week regardless."

The dustup marked a significant crack in the difficult alliance between Trump and the Republican establishment and raised the question of whether any GOP office holders who have endorsed the billionaire would rescind their support. Ayotte's spokesman confirmed that she would not withdraw her endorsement, but spokesmen for the others did not immediately respond.

Trump said he refused to endorse McCain, a prisoner of war in Vietnam, for not doing enough for veterans.

"I've never been there with John McCain because I've always felt that he should have done a much better job for the vets," Trump told the newspaper Tuesday.

As for Ayotte, who is running for a second Senate term and skipped the Republican National Convention, Trump said: "You have a Kelly Ayotte who doesn't want to talk about Trump, but I'm beating her in the polls by a lot."

"We need loyal people in this country," Trump added in the interview. "We need fighters in this country. We don't need weak people."

McCain is a locked in a three-way race ahead of an August 30 primary in Arizona. The primary for Ryan's House seat in Wisconsin is next week and Ayotte's primary in New Hampshire is next month.

Pence defends military mom's right to criticize Trump

RENO, Nev. (AP)—Republican vice presidential nominee Mike Pence defended a military mom's right to criticize Donald Trump's comments about the Muslim parents of a slain U.S. Army veteran during a campaign stop in Nevada, and then lashed out at the media's coverage of the controversy at the next.

Pence quieted a crowd that was booing a woman who asked Pence at a town hall meeting in Carson City Monday how he could tolerate Trump's disrespect for American servicemen.

"Capt. Khan is an American hero," Pence told a crowd at a Reno hotel-casino later that evening, emphasizing that Trump shares his view. "Capt. Khan and his family, like all Gold Star families, should be cherished by all the people of the United States."

The Republican nominee implied last week that Ghazala Khan, mother of Capt. Humayun Khan, stood silently alongside her husband at the Democratic National Convention because, as a Muslim, she was restricted her from speaking. That comment and others Trump made about the family prompted criticism from fellow Republicans and demands for an apology from the families of fallen soldiers.

During his speech at last week's DNC, Humayun Khan's father, Khizr Khan, questioned whether Trump has read the Constitution, and said the billionaire businessman has "sacrificed nothing and no one," leading Trump to respond.

Pence said he understands and appreciates the attention given to Khan's family. But he doesn't understand "why the media maligned and continues to ignore the moving mother of fallen Air Force veteran and diplomat Sean Smith."

Pence said much of the same media criticizing Trump earlier condemned Patricia Smith's speech at the GOP convention about the U.S. information officer killed in the 2012 attack in Benghazi.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-16-016
Typhoon Soudelor Permanent Restoration Project
CUC Power Plants 1, 2, and 4
Saipan, CNMI

ADDENDUM NO. 1

Dated: August 3, 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is hereby notifying prospective proposers on the following for CUC-RFP-16-016:

➢ **EXTENSION OF MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE:**

The Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference date has been revised from 1:00 p.m., (ChST) on August 5, 2016 to ***10:00 a.m., on August 16, 2016.*** Immediately after the conference, Site Visits to Power Plant facilities will be arranged.

➢ **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION:**

The deadline for submission of questions or requests for clarification has been revised from 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 10, 2016 to ***10:00 AM (ChST) on August 19, 2016.***

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 19, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

All other terms and conditions in the Specification/Scope of Work, shall remain unchanged and in full force.

GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
SCHEDULE OF ELECTRIC CHARGES AND RATES

By order of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, CUC is authorized to adjust the Fuel Adjustment Charge, previously known as Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause or LEAC, depending on the price of oil. Adjustments are made when the "Mean of Platts Singapore" monthly pricing equals or exceeds a 4.5% differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel used in the calculation of the Fuel Adjustment Charge. Due to a decrease in the average fuel prices, CUC will adjust the fuel-charge by 5.12%. Accordingly, the Fuel Adjustment Charge has decreased from $0.14670 per kWh to **$0.13924** per kWh effective **August 1, 2016.**

BASE RATES

		RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL	GOVERNMENT	MP*
1	Monthly Customer Charge	$ 7.00	$ 10.00	$ 10.00	$ 9.06
2	Base Rates Per kWh:				
	KWH LEVELS				
	1) 1 to 350	$ 0.0210	$ 0.1130	$ 0.1240	$ 0.1070
	2) 351 to 1,200	$ 0.0970	$ 0.1130	$ 0.1240	$ 0.1070
	3) 1,201 and over	$ 0.1580	$ 0.1130	$ 0.1240	$ 0.1070
3	Public Law 16-7 Credit (Rebate) Per kWh -- all usage	$ (0.0230)	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Municipal Pumping

FUEL ADJUSTMENT CHARGE or FAC (Previously known as Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause or LEAC)

	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL	GOVERNMENT	MP*
Current FAC (Effective 08/01/16)	$ 0.13924	$ 0.13924	$ 0.13924	$ 0.13924
Previous FAC (07/01/16 - 07/31/16)	$ 0.14670	$ 0.14670	$ 0.14670	$ 0.14670

*Municipal Pumping

PUBLIC STREETLIGHTING AND PRIVATE AREA LIGHTING TARIFF

Availability: Applicable to public outdoor streetlighting service and private area lighting where CUC owns, maintains and operates such facilities.
Energy Charge: The Energy Charge is the kWh multiplied by the sum of the applicable Electric Base Rate and the Fuel Adjustment Charge.
Fixture Charge: See below.

	FIXTURE TYPE	WATTS	KWH/MONTH	FIXTURE CHARGE PER MONTH
1	Long Arm	250	101	$ 11.67
2	Short Arm	175	71	$ 8.33
3	LED	140	57	$ 10.83

ELECTRIC NON-RATE FEES

1	Late Charge (monthly)	1% of Past Due
2	NSF Check / Returned Check Charge	$ 40.00
3	Convenience Fee (for pay-by-phone and online payments)	$ 1.50
4	Unauthorized Connection	$ 550.00
5	Reconnection at the Pole	$ 200.00
6	Investigation (no charge for first two investigations)	$ 210.00
7	Disconnection Notice	$ 15.00
8	Meter Change Out	$ 95.00
9	New Service - Single Phase	$ 135.00
10	Inspection of Service (no charge for first two inspections)	$ 90.00
11	Meter Test - Single Phase	$ 75.00
12	Meter Test - Three Phase	$ 110.00
13	Disconnection at the Meter	$ 45.00
14	Reconnection at the Meter	$ 60.00

Updated August 2016

Asia

North Korea fires missile toward waters near Japan

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A medium-range ballistic missile fired Wednesday by North Korea flew about 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) and landed near Japan's territorial waters, Seoul and Tokyo officials said, one of the longest flights by a North Korean missile.

The U.S. Strategic Command said North Korea fired two presumed Rodong missiles simultaneously on Wednesday, not just one. The command's statement said initial indications reveal one of the missiles exploded immediately after launch, while the second was tracked over North Korea and into the Sea of Japan.

North Korea has recently claimed a series of technical breakthroughs over its goal of acquiring a long-range nuclear missile capable of reaching the continental U.S. South Korean defense officials say North Korea doesn't yet have such a weapon, but some civilian experts believe the North has the technology to mount warheads on shorter-range Rodong and Scud missiles that can strike South Korea and Japan.

According to the South Korean and Japanese announcements, one suspected Rodong missile lifted off from the North's western Hwanghae province and flew across the country before falling in waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement that it "strongly condemns" the missile launch because it explicitly shows the North's intentions of being able to launch missile attacks on South Korea and neighboring countries.

Japan's Defense Ministry said the missile landed inside Japan's exclusive economic zone, the 200-nautical-mile offshore area where a nation has sovereign rights for exploring and exploiting resources. Japanese media reported it was the first North Korean missile that has splashed down in Japan's EEZ.

"It imposes a serious threat to Japan's security and it is unforgivable act of violence toward Japan's security," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said.

Bangladeshi struggles with son's fatal fall into militancy

NEW DELHI (AP)—He has seen the body, and authorities say the fingerprints match. But Towhid Rouf is having trouble believing that this skinny, bearded man—killed with eight other suspected Islamist militants in a Bangladesh police raid—could possibly be his smart, well-behaved son.

Shazad Rouf Orko, who once lived in the U.S. and held an American passport, was a fun-loving student and a member of a musically inclined family who played guitar, his father said. He disappeared early this year, and before his death he reportedly left behind an audio tape in which he denounced his own family as apostates.

"My one mind says he is my son, again another says most probably not," Rouf said Monday from Dhaka in a telephone interview. "Some features match, but I can't imagine he is my son ... (that) my son can be part of it."

Orko, 24, and the other suspected militants were killed July 26 when police raided an apartment in the Kalyanpur area of Dhaka, the Bangladeshi capital. One suspect was captured by police when he tried to escape and he was being treated with bullet injuries.

Bangladesh's secular government has geared up its drive against militancy after several months of deadly attacks targeting foreigners, atheist bloggers and religious minorities in the Muslim-majority South Asian nation. The worst came July 1, when armed men killed 20 hostages, including 17 foreigners, at a Dhaka restaurant.

The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for the attacks but the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has rejected the claim, saying they belong to banned domestic group Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh.

ASIAN BRIEFS

6 killed in Philippine police anti-drug operation

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine officials say police commandos have clashed with armed bodyguards of a town mayor linked to illegal drugs, killing six in a continuing crackdown that has left more than 400 suspected drug criminals dead. Regional police chief Elmer Beltejar says police were on patrol early Wednesday near the house of Mayor Rolando Espinosa Sr. in the central town of Albuera when they were fired upon by the mayor's bodyguards. The police fired back, killing six bodyguards and seizing at least 17 firearms and rifle grenades inside the compound. The clash comes a day after Espinosa surrendered to national police chief Ronald dela Rosa. Authorities accuse Espinosa of being a drug protector. His son Erwin, an alleged drug lord, has not surrendered.

India's opposition leader Sonia Gandhi falls ill

NEW DELHI (AP)—Sonia Gandhi, leader of India's opposition Congress party, on Tuesday cut short a political rally in northern India due to a high fever, a party official said. Spokesman Randeep Surjewala said Gandhi, 69, has been suffering from fever for the last few days but decided to campaign for state legislature elections to be held in Uttar Pradesh state early next year. During the day, she led a huge procession of her party supporters through the streets of Varanasi, a district represented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in India's Parliament. Gandhi returned to New Delhi around midnight by a chartered plane and her condition was stable, said Ghulam Nabi Azad, a senior party leader who had accompanied her to Varanasi.

Vietnam probes harmful waste dumping from Taiwanese firm

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Vietnamese police have launched an investigation into the illegal dumping of harmful waste material from a Taiwanese steel company already under fire for massive fish deaths in what officials say was the country's worst environmental disaster. Bui Dinh Quang, deputy police chief in Ha Tinh province where a unit of the Formosa Plastics Group is located, said a local company was the target of the investigation after police last month caught the company burying the industrial waste at a private farm. About 390 tons of the waste was buried in two places, including on the private farm in Ha Tinh province, Quang said.

World

Pope: It's 'terrible' children taught they can choose gender

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Francis has lamented that children are being taught at school that gender can be a choice, adding that his predecessor, Benedict XVI has labeled current times "the epoch of sin against God the Creator."

Francis weighed in with his view on gender and what he said was that of the emeritus pontiff while meeting privately last week with bishops from Poland during his pilgrimage there. The Vatican released a transcript Tuesday of those closed-door remarks.

The pope said he wanted to conclude his remarks by reflecting on this: "We are living a moment of annihilation of man as image of God."

Francis said: "Today, in schools they are teaching this to children -- to children! -- that everyone can choose their gender."

AP

In this Saturday, July 30, 2016 file photo, Pope Francis delivers his message during a prayer vigil on the occasion of the World Youth Days, in Brzegi, near Krakow, Poland.

Without specifying, he blamed this on textbooks supplied by "persons and institutions who donate money." The pope blamed what he called "ideological colonizing" backed by "very influential countries" which he didn't identify, adding "this is terrible."

One such "colonization" he said -- "I'll say it clearly with its first and last name -- is gender."

The "colonization" theme is one he has railed against before, including during an Asian pilgrimage in 2015.

This time, though, he volunteered that he has discussed the gender issue with Benedict, who has lived at the Vatican since retiring in 2013.

Turkey's Erdogan blasts foreign countries over coup reaction

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan once more blasted unnamed Western countries Tuesday for what he said was support for the attempted coup on July 15 that left more than 270 people dead.

"The West is supporting terrorism and taking sides with coups," Erdogan said, adding that forces unhappy with Turkey's rise as a regional power were behind the coup.

"They have actors inside (Turkey) but the scenario of this coup was written abroad," he said during a speech at an event for foreign investors in Ankara.

Turkey's government says the coup was instigated by U.S.-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, a former Erdogan ally now living in self-imposed exile in Pennsylvania. Turkey has demanded his extradition, but Washington has asked for evidence of the cleric's involvement.

Erdogan complained about the U.S. request: "We did not request documents for terrorists that you wanted returned."

Speaking late Tuesday night in a live television interview on CNN Turk, Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said there would be a high-level visit to Turkey from the United States this month, without saying who would be visiting.

The government has launched a sweeping crackdown on Gulen's movement, which it characterizes as a terrorist organization. Nearly 70,000 people have been suspended from their jobs on suspicion of being involved in the movement, which runs schools, charities and businesses internationally.

Erdogan has singled out Germany for criticism, after a court there ruled against allowing him to appear on a video link to address a crowd of about 30,000 supporters and anti-coup demonstrators in Cologne over the weekend.

The president said Turkey had sent Germany more than 4,000 files on what he said were wanted terrorists, but Germany did nothing. However, he said, courts quickly decided against him speaking at the rally.

Nicaraguan president's wife tapped to be his running mate

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP)—Nicaraguan first lady Rosario Murillo was named Tuesday to be the running mate of her husband, Daniel Ortega, in his bid to win election to a third consecutive presidential term in Nov. 6 elections.

The governing Sandinista National Liberation Front party formally registered Murillo as its vice presidential candidate.

Murillo already holds considerable power as chief government spokeswoman. Even the red-and-black flags of the Sandinista revolution have been supplanted by the pink and baby blue colors she favors.

While Ortega occasionally appears in public, Murillo holds forth regularly on national television with a stream of rhetoric that blends socialism, New Age spirituality and Roman Catholicism.

Ortega said the candidacy fulfilled the party's commitment to have women in at least half of candidacies.

But Eliseo Nunez, a former congressman for the opposition liberal party, saw it as a move to cement the couple's hold on power.

"I have always thought that Ortega's plan was to guarantee his family's succession in case he can't go on or isn't around, and this is proof of that," Nunez said.

Ortega ruled Nicaragua from 1979 to 1990, then lost an election to Violeta Chamorro. Murillo led the campaigns that returned Ortega to the presidency in 2006 and won him re-election in 2011.

Environment

An ambitious plan aims to cover 25 percent of Phoenix with tree shade

By WILLIAM YARDLEY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

AP
Civic Space Park in downtown-Phoenix. Officials are putting new emphasis on planting trees downtown to increase shade and make streets more pedestrian friendly.

PHOENIX—This Southwest capital presents a distinctive postcard: brutal heat, desert peaks, sprawling subdivisions and endless asphalt.

Richard Adkins wants to add another image: trees.

"I've heard most of the jokes and I can deal with them. 'Phoenix, really, you have trees? I thought you had cacti,'" said Adkins, the city's forestry supervisor. "But we do have trees here."

There may be many more in the years to come.

Under a plan Adkins is developing with the support of city officials, 25 percent of Phoenix would have tree canopy by the year 2030. That would be a notable increase from the current situation: A recent study determined that overall canopy in the city was less than half that.

Yet with a new emphasis on downtown development and walkable neighborhoods, as well as increasing concern about heat on human health (forecasts show that climate change will make things even hotter here), Phoenix is seeking more shade.

That can mean "engineered" shade, like the small steel "trees" rising out of planters on some corners downtown, or larger structures like those in Civic Space Park or at many of the city's newer transit centers. It will also mean more real trees — whether natives, like mesquite and palo brea, or nonnatives that have proved resilient in a particularly challenging setting.

The way Adkins describes one nonnative he and other arborists in the Southwest have grown fond of, the Chinese pistache, offers a window into just how much is asked of a tree in urban Arizona.

"Not very messy at all, very low maintenance, but very high yielding as far as benefits," Adkins said of the pistache, which is native to China. "Great thick shade, good for air quality because it has a very thick crown and can intercept a lot of particulate matter. It has a good root system that's not too shallow, so I don't have a lot problems right now with buckling sidewalks or destroying infrastructure. And it's one of the only trees that's going to give you nice red fall color. In Phoenix, we don't have a lot of fall color; we don't have a lot of fall, period."

He added, as if for the sake of full disclosure, "The leaves do drop once a year."

But then it was right back to the benefits: "Aesthetically, it's quite pleasing. It can bring commerce to any business that had it out front because, you know, people are drawn to nice vegetation and shade."

That last point has not always been so appreciated in Phoenix. Tall palms, evoking a desert oasis but providing little shade, are still prominent in many places, as are green lawns. There can also be a shade divide, with vast stretches of bleakness — nothing overhead but the sun — in some lower-income neighborhoods.

Adkins is a persistent advocate for improvement. The city recently created an online inventory of its trees — it has more than 92,000 — and Adkins has scattered tags on trees around town to document their environmental and economic value. He uses a formula developed by the U.S. Forest Service and arborist groups that factors in how much carbon a tree stores, how much electricity it saves, how much it reduces storm-water runoff and how much it offers in terms of aesthetic value.

"We went from being a palm-pruning, tree-pruning maintenance crew to where now we're actually managing the entire urban forest and trying to move forward with shade percentages, increased canopy coverage and managing it more appropriately," he said.

The shift has come as Phoenix tries to catch up with other cities in making the kind of urban environment to which young workers flock. But meeting the goal comes with more challenges here, including working collegially with a development community accustomed to paving what it wants to pave and not necessarily being told what it should plant. And then there is water, or the lack of it.

"There's a lot of pushback: 'You plant more trees. Well, we're going to have to use more water,'" Adkins said. "That's where it gets into species choice and water management. Even today, most people over-water everything. But is water a consideration? Of course? Do I feel we have ways of watering and harvesting rainfall with green infrastructure to help provide for our street trees? Absolutely. Do I think we need to give up trees for water? No."

The showcase for the city's new emphasis on trees and shade may be Civic Space Park, completed in 2009 by cobbling together nearly 3 acres of land in the middle of downtown. It includes solar panels, pervious pavers, a fair-trade coffee shop and dozens of Chinese pastiche and oak, another tree Adkins said can do surprisingly well here if properly managed. When the trees are mature, perhaps in five or six more years, more than 70 percent of the park is expected to be shaded.

Getting the entire city up to 25 percent will be considerably more challenging. Although some older parts of town average as much as 17 percent shade, other areas have 7 percent or 8 percent.

"Twenty-five percent, that's very ambitious," Adkins said. "But you've got to have a number to shoot for. That's what gets people behind you and moving forward."

Sierra Nevada's giant sequoias respond to water stress with clever adaptations

By ROBERT KUO
THE SACRAMENTO BEE

SACRAMENTO, Calif.— The leaves atop giant sequoias in the Sierra Nevada are better at storing water than those closer to the ground, an adaptation that may explain how their treetops are able to survive 300 feet in the air, researchers at American River College and Humboldt State University have found.

"It can take over a week for water to get from the ground to the top of the tree," says Alana Chin, who led the study and is an instructor at American River College in Sacramento. "When you're that tall of a tree, you're under tremendous water stress."

Chin and her colleagues used ropes to climb the trees and collect samples. They found that leaves higher up the tree have less surface area and more transfusion tissue compared to leaves near the trunk. These traits give leaves more succulence, or ability to store water, which serves as a buffer against a water deficit that would otherwise damage the shoot system.

The findings were published in the American Journal of Botany in May.

In the laboratory, the researchers also simulated acute drought conditions by submerging shoots in wax. Results from the experiment showed samples collected from the upper crown compared to the lower crown had less shoot damage when water was restored. The crown consists of branches and leaves that comprise roughly the top half of giant sequoias.

Giant sequoias in the Sierra Nevada have demonstrated other adaptations, such as foliage die-back, in response to prolonged water stress such as the recent drought conditions.

Giant sequoias have survived California's severe drought conditions better than most other tree species. Although an estimated 66 million trees have died in the Sierra Nevada since 2010, giant sequoias were only a handful among that total. To stay hydrated in the summer, these trees rely on a healthy snowpack which may be threatened by climate change.

Nate Stephenson, a forest ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, regularly visits trees in the Sierra Nevada as part of a long-term forest monitoring program. Giant sequoias typically carry 2 billion leaves on each tree, but in recent years, he and his colleagues have witnessed unprecedented numbers of leaves shed, which is believed to be driven by the need to conserve water. Interestingly, trees shedding large amounts of foliage have leaves with similar water content as leaves from trees with more typical foliage.

"Even though they lost half their leaves, their remaining leaves are happy," Stephenson said.

Leaves contain pores that allow the entry of carbon dioxide for use in photosynthesis. But pores also represent a potential source of water loss. Thus, shedding leaves can reduce water leaving the tree. There was no pattern apparent in leaf shedding, which was widely distributed across the crown of giant sequoias, according to Todd Dawson, a University of California, Berkeley professor who worked with Stephenson to survey the trees.

Dawson and his team are hopeful as they gear up for an upcoming survey of the giant sequoias this August. With a better rainfall last winter, they hope to see signs of improved tree health. The survey is expected to reveal how quickly giant sequoias respond to climate change.

"Are they re-growing leaves that they lost in the 2014 and 2015 summers?" Dawson wants to know. "Or will it take some years to make a comeback?"

Life & Style

Winfrey picks Whitehead novel for book club

NEW YORK (AP)—Oprah Winfrey has a new book club pick, Colson Whitehead's "The Underground Railroad," a historical novel that imagines the network of safe houses and passages that helped slaves escape to free territory is an actual train.

Winfrey told The Associated Press during a recent telephone interview that she knew from the first sentence that she would want to share her passion with her audience, an impulse she has relied on with uncommon success for 20 years.

"I was blown away by it," Winfrey said. "'Blown away' is an often-used expression, but with this book it was to the point of sometimes putting it down and saying, 'I can't read anymore. I don't want to turn the page. I want to know what happens, but I don't want to know what happens.'"

"The Underground Railroad" was scheduled to come out in September, but after learning of Winfrey's decision, Doubleday moved up the release date to Tuesday and more than doubled the announced first printing, from 75,000 to 200,000. An interview with Whitehead appears in the September issue of Winfrey's magazine, "O," which comes out next week. Winfrey's website, Oprah.com, will include a reading guide and Winfrey's comments, and "Underground Railroad" will be featured on the social media site Goodreads (Goodreads.com/OprahsBookClub).

AP

In this Wednesday, June 15, 2016 file photo, Oprah Winfrey arrives at the season one premiere of "Greenleaf" at The Lot in West Hollywood, Calif.

By Tuesday evening, "The Underground Railroad" was No. 4 on Amazon.com after beginning the day unranked.

Whitehead, 46, is the author of highly regarded novels such as "The Intuitionist" and "John Henry Days," and a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle award. In "The Underground Railroad," his sixth novel, he imagines that the network of safe houses and passages that enabled slaves to reach free territory is an actual train. The book was already highly anticipated, with the trade publication Kirkus Reviews calling it "startlingly original" and praising Whitehead for examining "race mythology and history with rousing audacity and razor-sharp ingenuity." Winfrey said the novel was so vivid she double-checked her history books to make sure the rail system didn't exist.

During a recent telephone interview, Whitehead said that he swore out loud—while on a plane—when he learned his book had joined Winfrey's pantheon of favorites.

"I was in high school when her show became national," he said. "She was an ambassador from black America and, obviously, a huge presence."

Winfrey started her club in 1996 with Jacquelyn Mitchard's "The Deep End of the Ocean," and laughs as she recalls her early doubts that you could use a television show to talk about a novel. Her choices would sell hundreds of thousands of copies, and sometimes millions, but Winfrey originally saw the club as an extension of what she did in person, when she handed out copies of Alice Walker's "The Color Purple" to passers-by near where her program was taped in Chicago.

"I would walk home across Wacker Drive every evening," she said. "I would take my backpack full of books and say, 'Excuse me, have you read 'The Color Purple'? This is a great book."

Archie Panjabi goes for action in 'Blindspot' TV role

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Archie Panjabi of "The Good Wife" is getting back into series TV with "Blindspot" and out of her comfort zone.

"I have always wanted to do an action-based TV show," she said. When contacted about the NBC drama, "my first reaction was, 'Gosh, I'd be terrified to do something like that,' which is why I finally decided I wanted to do it."

Panjabi, who played investigator Kalinda Sharma on CBS' "The Good Wife," was asked at a TV critics' meeting Tuesday if her recurring "Blindspot" character would carry Kalinda's air of mystery. The actress was suitably mysterious in her reply, saying she didn't want to "give away too much." But she did throw out some adjectives.

"She's tough, she's tenacious, she's wild and unpredictable," Panjabi said of Nazanin Al-Obaidy, who leads a clandestine government division in the series starring Jaimie Alexander.

Panjabi was even more circumspect when asked about her tenure on "Good Wife," which was marked by reports that she and star Julianna Margulies had a tense relationship. She said she loved playing Kalinda and had a "great time on the show," which she won an Emmy for in 2010 and left in 2015. "Good Wife" ended its run this year.

"In terms of anything that happened on 'The Good Wife,' it's only respectful for it to stay on 'The Good Wife.' It was time for me, for many reasons, to unzip the boots and step into another show," Panjabi said, referring to Kalinda's fondness for thigh-high boots.

"Blindspot" producers enthusiastically welcomed her.

"It's like winning the lottery to have Archie on the show," producer Sarah Schechter said.

The show, which aired in its freshman season at 10 p.m. EDT Monday, will debut at 10 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Sept. 14, and then move to its new regular time slot at 8 p.m. EDT Wednesday.

The earlier hour will mean some of the show's violence will be toned down but "Blindspot" will remain recognizable to its freshman season fans, said another producer, Martin Gero.

AP

Archie Panjabi participates in the "Blindspot" panel during the NBCUniversal Television Critics Association summer press tour on Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2016, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Top-selling edition of Constitution by conservative press

NEW YORK (AP)—Since Khizr Khan held up a copy of the U.S. Constitution last week at the Democratic National Convention and offered to lend it to Republican nominee Donald Trump, sales for the government's founding document have soared, with two editions in the top 10 on Amazon.com.

But the most popular text comes from a publisher as far from the Democratic Party as can be imagined.

"The Constitution of the United States," trailing only the new Harry Potter book on Amazon as of Tuesday evening, was first released a decade ago by the right-wing National Center for Constitutional Studies. Founded as The Freeman Institute in 1971, the NCCS was originally led by W. Cleon Skousen, a best-selling historian endorsed by Glenn Beck and others of the right and widely discredited in the scholarly community. Skousen, who died in 2006, was an extreme anti-Communist who had close ties with the far-right John Birch Society.

AP

In this July 28, 2016 file photo, Khizr Khan, father of fallen US Army Capt. Humayun S. M. Khan holds up a copy of the Constitution of the United States as his wife listens during the final day of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

The NCCS web site includes blog posts with such conservative themes as limited government and the importance of religion. The NCCS also has released several controversial books, including "The Making of America," a history book published in the 1980s that featured an essay on slavery widely condemned as racist and inaccurate. Beck's support helped revive interest in Skousen's "The 5,000 Year Leap."

The center's current bestseller, which includes the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, has a list price of $1.00 and includes no additional political commentary. According to NCCS spokesman Dan Sheridan, 45,000 copies sold between Saturday and Monday.

"I watched the Democratic and Republican conventions, and when (Kahn) pulled out the Constitution I didn't care which party it came from," Sheridan said. "What matters is that it promotes the idea of going back to our founding documents and finding out what they're all about."

The Constitution is in the public domain and can be published by anyone. Amazon's No. 5 seller as of late Tuesday was an edition released through CreateSpace, the online retailer's self-publishing platform. The American Civil Liberties Union has been offering free copies.

Khizr Khizr and Ghazala Khan are the parents of U.S. Army Capt. Humayun Khan, posthumously awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart after his death in 2004. From the podium of the Democratic National Convention, Khizr Khan criticized Trump's position on Muslims and asked whether the real estate mogul had read the Constitution. The edition in his hand had a plain blue cover and did not resemble the NCCS text, which features a drawing of George Washington.

Parents sue over crash that killed 'Star Trek' actor Yelchin

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The parents of "Star Trek" actor Anton Yelchin filed a wrongful death lawsuit Tuesday against the makers of Jeep Grand Cherokees, claiming the company manufactured unsafe gear selectors that led to their 27-year-old son being crushed in his own driveway.

The actor's 2015 Cherokee rolled backward down a driveway of his home on June 19, pinning him between a mailbox and a security fence.

The suit contends the defective gear selector was poorly designed and manufactured.

"Anton Yelchin was crushed and lingered alive for some time, trapped and suffocating until his death," the lawsuit states.

Victor and Irina Yelchin filed the wrongful death and product liability lawsuit in Los Angeles.

Fiat Chrysler extended its sympathies to Yelchin's parents but said it could not comment on the lawsuit because it had not yet been served with the legal action.

The Cherokee model was among 1.1 million vehicles recalled in April after regulators said its gear shifters have confused drivers, causing the SUVs to roll away unexpectedly and leading to dozens of injuries.

AP

Irina Yelchin, mother of the late actor Anton Yelchin, talks to the media as attorney Gary Dordick, left, and Victor Yelchin, Anton's father, look on after filing a wrongful-death and product-liability lawsuit against Fiat Chrysler in Los Angeles Superior Court on Tuesday, Aug, 2, 2016.

A government investigation into the gear shifters found 266 crashes that had injured 68 people as of late June.

Fiat Chrysler has said it is speeding its recall of the vehicle. Both the company and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration have urged drivers of vehicles subject to the recall to set their parking brakes before getting out of their SUV.

The suit does not say how much Yelchin's parents are seeking in damages, but their attorney Gary A. Dordick said they want the company to be punished and hope the lawsuit changes its business practices.

Irina Yelchin cried as Dordick said at a news conference that the automaker put profits before safety.

"In spite of our unbelievable grief, we decided to come here to prevent other families from the same tragedy," Victor Yelchin said.

Anton Yelchin was sent an initial safety recall notice in May, and another notice was sent to the actor seven days after he died, notifying him that the company had a fix for the gear shifter, Dordick said.

"The safety recall was way too little and way too late," the attorney said.

The lawsuit says Yelchin's SUV did not engage or maintain its "park" setting, and that led to the vehicle moving and crushing the actor.

Yelchin is perhaps best known for his role as Pavel Chekov in the rebooted "Star Trek" franchise. The third film in the series, "Star Trek Beyond," opened two weeks ago.

His parents attended a tribute to their son at last month's Comic-Con convention in San Diego and said they have been moved by the outpouring of support and grief from his friends and fans.

"He never cared (about) being a star," Irina Yelchin said. "He loved life very, very much."

He was the only child of the Yelchins, and they have filed to oversee his estate, valued at nearly $1.4 million. The actor left behind several unreleased projects, including the Netflix animated series "Trollhunters" and four films.

World's largest gaming fair bans cosplay weapons

BERLIN (AP)—No rubber swords, no plastic guns.

The world's largest gaming fair has told visitors to leave their weapons at home this year.

Organizers of the annual gamescom event in Germany said Tuesday that "replica weapons and weapon-like items" on costumes will be banned due a recent series of attacks that have shaken the country.

Germany saw its first suicide bombing and one of the worst mass shootings in its history last month.

Replica weapons are a frequent accessory in cosplay—short for costume play—where fans dress up as video game or anime characters.

Actors working for exhibitors will still be able to carry weapons at the event, provided they are registered and checked first.

The gamescom fair takes place Aug. 17-21 in Cologne.

Hayes, O'Donnell join 'Hairspray'; Ariana Grande's 'dream'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Sean Hayes and Rosie O'Donnell are joining the cast of NBC's "Hairspray Live!"

Hayes will take on the role of dress shop owner Mr. Pinky, while O'Donnell will play a tough gym teacher in the production set to air in December, the network said Tuesday.

They join a cast that represents a "slew" of Oscar, Emmy and Tony award winners, said Robert Greenblatt, NBC Entertainment chairman. That includes Harvey Fierstein, reprising his Tony Award-winning role as Edna Turnblad in the Broadway production that premiered in 2004.

The musical also stars Kristin Chenoweth, Jennifer Hudson, Derek Hough, Martin Short and pop star Ariana Grande, who told a TV critics' meeting that she didn't want more solos than the part provides.

"It's a dream come true for me. ... I love Penny and it's a great honor to play her, so I don't want any special icing," Grande said.

Hudson, who has gone from "American Idol" to movie and stage star, said she was "definitely nervous" about the prospect of working on live TV, and this after surviving her Broadway debut last year in "The Color Purple."

AP

Jennifer Hudson, a cast member in the television special "Hairspray Live!," arrives at the NBCUniversal Television Critics Association summer press tour on Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2016, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Grandma is demanding hostess during family's annual visits

DEAR ABBY: We visit my grandmother out of state once a year. After our visits, I usually leave feeling defeated. A few reasons why:

She leaves multiple notes around "reminding" us to clean up after ourselves. There's a note in the shower that says, "Please wipe down shower walls after use." She asks me to change the sheets or launder our towels before I leave. Although she has decorative paper hand towels in the bathrooms, she asks us not to use them because they are "too expensive." She complains about my son's handprints on her windows (he's 2). She badmouths nearly everyone she knows, has unsolicited advice on everything and is generally highly judgmental.

When we return home, she gushes about our visit for months, saying how "lonely" she is now that we're gone and how much she enjoyed our visit. I don't understand. Is this normal grandmother behavior, or does she take it too far? Must we continue spending big bucks to go out there every year, or can we just send pictures and call often?

GRANDDAUGHTER IN A QUANDARY

DEAR GRANDDAUGHTER: If these annual visits are a "command performance," I can see why you might resent them. However, it's not unheard of for a hostess to leave a note asking that the shower be wiped down, or that the sheets and towels be laundered before a guest leaves—particularly if the guests are family members. A gracious guest wouldn't mind doing those things, and would ask how her hostess wanted it handled before she left.

Rather than stew when she complained about your 2-year-old's handprints on her windows, the appropriate response would have been: "You know, you're right. I'll get the Windex!" And when she made a negative comment about someone, you should have found something nice to say about the person in response.

If these visits cause financial hardship, visit your grandmother every OTHER year, or consider inviting her to visit you, but don't cut her off completely. After all, she's family, and not all family members are "perfect."

DEAR ABBY: I'm a newly retired woman living alone. Today I received a phone call on my landline asking me to participate in a survey. The first question asked was how many people are in my household.

In the past, I didn't live alone and I didn't mind participating in surveys. But calling on my landline makes me worry that person has access to my physical address. And being asked by some stranger for information like my age, the number of people in my household, and whether I have guns in the house, etc. makes me feel very vulnerable.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

I told the caller I was not interested in participating and wouldn't give a reason why. There has got to be a better way to conduct surveys. Please let researchers know.

CAUTIOUS SENIOR

DEAR CAUTIOUS: I'm doing that. But while I'm doing it, I am also advising readers that they are under no obligation to respond to surveys of any type, and that all they have to do if they receive this kind of call is say, "Not interested," and hang up.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

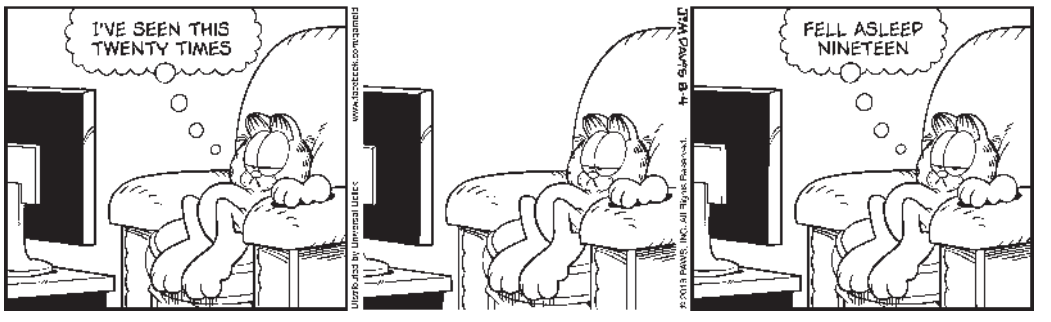
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

WANT TO GO SPELUNKING WITH ME?
SPELUNKING? THERE AREN'T ANY CAVES AROUND HERE!
YOU DON'T NEED A CAVE. ALL YOU NEED IS A ROCK.
SPELUNK!

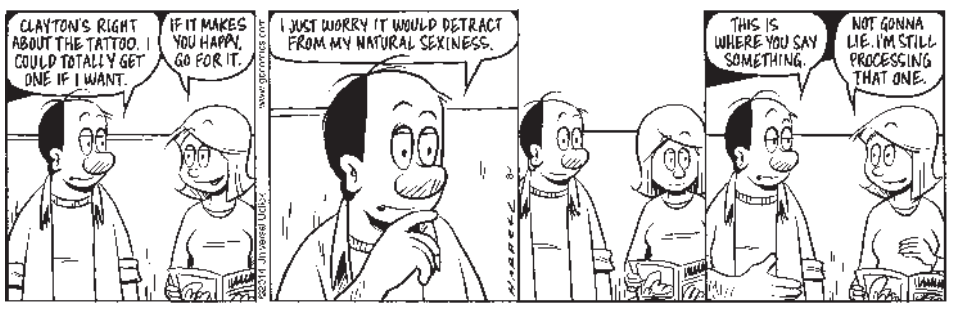
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



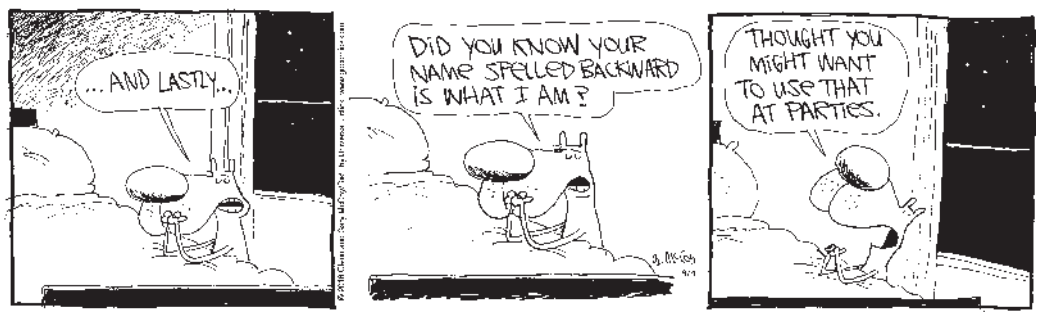
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


CLAYTON'S RIGHT ABOUT THE TATTOO. I COULD TOTALLY GET ONE IF I WANT.
IF IT MAKES YOU HAPPY, GO FOR IT.
I JUST WORRY IT WOULD DETRACT FROM MY NATURAL SEXINESS.
THIS IS WHERE YOU SAY SOMETHING.
NOT GONNA LIE. I'M STILL PROCESSING THAT ONE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Metric measure
5 Some coll. degrees
8 In — (dazed)
12 Fury
13 "Yecch!"
14 Chaste
15 Oaxaca water
16 Meadow
17 Blueprint
18 Storm cloud shape
20 Pacifies
22 TGIF part
23 Arrest
24 Notoriety
27 Lost city of gold
32 Singer Rawls
33 Second person
34 — Tech
35 "Things are fine ..."
38 Terrier type
39 Zodiac cat
40 Sass
42 Prolific inventor
45 Takes as one's own
49 Meditative practice
50 Scull tool
52 Asta's mistress
53 500 sheets
54 Blue
55 Cheshire countenance
56 Sea flier
57 Owns
58 Safe-cracker

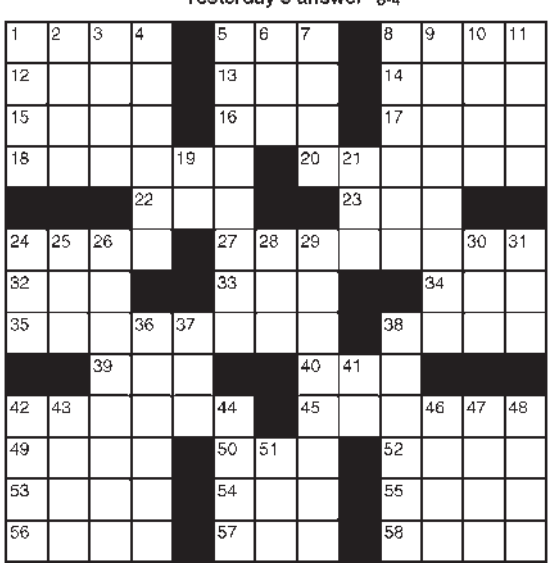
DOWN

1 Tennis great Steffi
2 Prego rival
3 "Son of —!"
4 Bully
5 High score in darts
6 Grow older
7 Cager O'Neal, familiarly
8 Show up
9 Football position
10 Spoken
11 Pentagon VIPs
19 UFO pilot
21 First numero
24 Ga. neighbor
25 MSN rival
26 "Suffragette" actress Carey
28 Texter's chuckle
29 Airheads
30 Calendar box
31 Flamenco cheer
36 Bagel choice
37 Romance
38 Like foam rubber
41 Freudian concept
42 Brontë's heroine Jane
43 Active person
44 Snack
46 Skin opening
47 Advanced math
48 Crooned
51 Motorist's org.

Solution time: 24 mins.

A	S	T	I	■	A	R	C	■	E	P	I	C
S	T	E	M	■	B	E	E	■	W	E	R	E
P	E	T	P	E	E	V	E	■	I	T	I	N
S	P	E	A	R	■	■	S	A	N	E	S	■
■	■	■	L	E	O	S	■	M	G	R	■	■
C	O	P	A	■	B	I	G	I	■	P	E	G
A	W	E	■	O	O	Z	E	S	■	A	G	O
T	I	C	■	P	F	F	I	■	S	N	O	B
■	■	■	A	A	A	■	D	A	L	I	■	■
D	A	N	G	L	E	■	■	A	M	I	G	O
E	X	P	O	■	P	I	N	G	P	O	N	G
M	E	I	R	■	O	A	H	■	E	I	A	L
I	D	E	A	■	S	N	L	■	F	A	T	E

Yesterday's answer 8-4



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kurt Busch, 38; Jeff Gordon, 45; Daniel Dae Kim, 48; Billy Bob Thornton, 61.

Happy Birthday: Being cautious will spare you from a mishap. As long as you remain practical and plan everything out logically, you will move forward, slowly but surely. Change is best accepted and dealt with. You won't benefit from putting up a fight or being stubborn. Acceptance will help you find a way to deal with challenges and difficulties. Your numbers are 8, 12, 23, 27, 34, 39, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Refrain from cluttering your schedule with expensive events that will bog you down and stress you out. Plan romantic activities that don't require a lot of expenses. It's the time you spend with your loved ones that counts. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Someone close to you will cause you concern. Avoid negativity ad stubbornness and you'll avoid a setback. An opening in your schedule will help you head in a new direction. Think of new ways to use your skills. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Good things will happen to those who are willing to put in the effort necessary to reach their goals. Expand your knowledge by connecting with people who have something to offer. Express your feelings to your loved ones. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Make the alterations to your home or office that will help you be more productive. Someone you used to know will resurface, but don't be too trusting if your last encounter gave you reason to be cautious. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Get involved in something that will challenge you mentally and encourage you to bring about the professional changes that will give you a chance to use your talents to the fullest. Don't let other people confuse you. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take time to listen to the problems your loved ones are faced with. Your concern and suggestions will in turn help you find a way of dealing with your own problems. Participate instead of sitting back and being critical. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): A chance to improve your surroundings, make a residential move or alter the dynamics of your current work situation is within reach. Consider where and how you would like to live. A personal change will do you good. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You'll come across some very strange but enticing propositions. Let your gut feelings help you make a life choice that will give you the ability to engage in what you have only dreamed about in the past. Live in the moment. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Follow your heart even if it leads you in a direction you never considered in the past. Say goodbye to the old habits and friends who have been a poor influence. It's time to build promising new friendships. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Take pride in what you have accomplished already and work toward achieving the goals you set for the future. Your drive will set you apart from any competitors you meet. Your intuition and insight will lead you to success and confidence. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Put everything you've got into partnerships and bringing about positive changes. A personal relationship will take a positive turn if you share your ideas and offer incentives that will ensure you get the support you need to excel. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Your sensitivity will skyrocket. Make sure you direct your energy wisely. When dealing with relationships, look for the positives and refuse to get into a dispute. Keeping the peace now will give you leverage later. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are flamboyant but practical. You are challenging, competitive and unique.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			4		8			
5		4	9		2	7		6
8	9		7		5		6	4
3	5		6		1		8	9
1		9	2		7	3		5
			3		4			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8:04

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	8	6	7	2	9	4	5	3
5	4	2	6	8	3	1	7	9
3	7	9	1	5	4	6	8	2
7	6	1	8	3	2	9	4	5
4	2	5	9	7	6	8	3	1
8	9	3	5	4	1	2	6	7
6	1	4	3	9	5	7	2	8
9	3	8	2	6	7	5	1	4
2	5	7	4	1	8	3	9	6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8:04

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

UP A CREEK Solution: 11 letters

A	E	Y	G	N	A	L	S	E	L	B	U	O	R	T
M	B	R	C	A	N	O	E	I	S	T	P	R	U	D
B	E	A	O	A	A	A	K	C	U	T	S	R	E	L
U	D	D	N	H	N	T	V	S	D	S	M	T	O	O
S	I	N	C	D	S	C	Y	Y	E	O	R	S	E	C
H	L	A	U	O	O	A	E	L	I	E	E	E	G	N
E	E	U	L	O	B	N	E	L	S	I	S	I	R	C
D	M	Q	I	C	R	P	E	E	E	T	I	Z	O	A
H	M	M	A	M	O	G	D	D	E	D	M	E	U	P
C	A	U	G	H	T	E	A	E	I	D	E	E	N	T
T	E	D	E	R	E	N	R	O	C	A	L	V	D	U
U	R	D	H	S	R	A	M	J	U	M	B	L	E	R
L	T	Y	D	E	D	N	A	R	T	S	O	O	D	E
C	S	N	W	A	T	E	R	E	V	I	R	S	T	D
S	E	D	I	T	L	A	S	T	R	A	P	P	E	D

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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Petition for the Changes of Name of: CJCB: 11/29/1999 Minor Child's Initial/ (d.o.b.)	) FCD CN) CIVIL ACTION) NO. 16-0379) **NOTICE OF HEARING**
By:	
Liza Tobio Comon Petitioner	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on August 18th, 2016 at 10:30a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 27th day of July, 2016.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Amendment #01

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Vice-Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the recessed Special Board Meeting on Monday, July 18, 2016 – 5:30 p.m., to be resumed on **Friday, August 5, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at the NMHC's Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan** has been postponed until further notice. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
c. Adoption of Agenda
d. Adoption of Minutes - February 10, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- February 25, 2016 Special Board Meeting Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
a. Properties for Sale
b. Personnel Matters
c. FY 2015 Audit

IV. OLD BUSINESS
a. Garapan Annex
b. RD Update
c. Adoption of the Amendments to the Section 8 Admin Plan

V. NEW BUSINESS
a. Loan Assistance
b. NMHC Procurement Regulations
c. Travel Policy
d. Reprogramming Authority

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT
VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
VIII. OTHER MATTERS
IX. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **IGNACIO L. PEREZ**
Vice-Chairman of the Board

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Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal. For additional information, please contact the HR Office by calling (670) 237-6500 or via email at evelyn.sablan@cpa.gov.mp.

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A-Rod's time with Yanks could be nearing an end

NEW YORK (AP)—His time with the New York Yankees drawing near an end following more than a decade of controversy, Alex Rodriguez proclaimed: "No matter what happens, I'm at peace with myself."

After trading four veterans and turning their attention toward rebuilding, the Yankees appear to have little or no use for a 41-year-old designated hitter with a .204 batting average, one whose playing time has all but disappeared in the past month.

"I think I can contribute. I think I can help out in the clubhouse," Rodriguez said Tuesday, "but if not, I have two beautiful daughters waiting for me in Miami."

Four home runs shy of 700, he trails only Barry Bonds (762), Hank Aaron (755) and Babe Ruth (714) on the career list. But he may not get there with the Yankees, who want to test youth after giving up hope on the present by dealing Aroldis Chapman, Andrew Miller, Carlos Beltran and Ivan Nova for 10 prospects, pitcher Adam Warren and two players to be named.

"In maybe the near future, do I see him getting a ton of at-bats?" manager Joe Girardi said at Citi Field before the Yankees' 7-1 loss to the Mets. "No, I probably don't, because of some of the changes that we're possibly going to make here."

Rodriguez pinch-hit in the ninth inning and hit a game-ending flyout to shallow right, just his seventh at-bat since July 22. He has nine homers and 29 RBI this year, and only four hits in his last 37 at-bats.

Earlier this month, Beltran displaced A-Rod from his DH slot. Touted catcher Gary Sanchez, expected to be called up before Wednesday's game against the Mets in the Bronx, is among the players likely to see time at DH going forward.

Rodriguez has a $20 million salary this year and is owed $20 million in 2017, the final season of his $275 million, 10-year deal. The money makes a trade unlikely, leading to speculation he will be designated for assignment and then released.

"My plans are for him to be there tomorrow with us," Girardi said after the game.

Owner Hal Steinbrenner, speaking Tuesday on an ESPN radio show simulcast on the team's YES Network, said decision-makers had not gotten that far.

"I haven't discussed with the baseball people anything about what we're going to be doing in the hours and days to come," he said.

"The last two weeks have been about trades, trades, trades," he added, before dropping a hint: "My job is to do what's best for the organization."

AP

Tampa Bay Rays catcher Curt Casali (19) tags New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez after Rodriguez struck out swinging against Drew Smyly during the fourth inning of a baseball game Saturday, July 30, 2016, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

For now, Rodriguez is prepared to mentor while he sits when healthy for the most time since he was a rookie with Seattle in 1994.

"At-bats are going to come if they come," he said. "If they don't, they don't. I know that when I was 18 years old and in a big league clubhouse, it was instrumental to have guidance, to have guys like Edgar Martinez and Jay Buhner to show me the way."

Sanchez likely isn't the only new face to get playing time. Young outfielder Aaron Judge, sidelined since early July by a knee injury, was activated from the disabled list Tuesday and went 1 for 3 with a double for Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. New outfielder Clint Frazier, the top prospect obtained from Cleveland in the Miller deal, was 0 for 3 with three strikeouts in his RailRiders debut.

Second-year pitcher Luis Severino also is back up with the Yankees after impressing last summer and struggling this spring. Greg Bird is expected to take over from Mark Teixeira at first base next year after missing all of 2016 following shoulder surgery.

Ever since the Yankees acquired Rodriguez from Texas before the 2004 season, he has been the center of attention, whether winning his second and third AL MVP awards, admitting in 2009 he used performance-enhancing drugs, helping New York win the World Series later that year or serving a one-year drug-related suspension in 2014.

"I know that the organization has a brighter future today than it did last week, and hopefully I'm part of that equation," Rodriguez said. "But if not, I can accept it very clearly."

Backed by 4 HRs, Bundy helps Orioles beat Rangers

BALTIMORE (AP)—Dylan Bundy took a no-hitter into the sixth inning for the second game in a row, Pedro Alvarez hit two of Baltimore's four solo homers and the Orioles beat the Texas Rangers 5-1 on Tuesday night in a duel between AL division leaders.

Making his fourth career start, Bundy allowed one hit and a walk over seven sparkling innings against a potent lineup featuring newcomers Carlos Beltran and Jonathan Lucroy.

Bundy (4-3) retired the first 10 batters before issuing a fourth-inning walk to Ian Desmond, who was thrown out trying to steal as Beltran struck out. Elvis Andrus ended the rookie's no-hit bid with a clean line drive up the middle with two outs in the sixth.

Bundy outpitched Yu Darvish (2-3), who allowed three homers for only the second time in 90 major-league appearances.

Mariners 5, Red Sox 4

In Seattle, Robinson Cano hit a three-run homer to cap a five-run eighth inning, Edwin Diaz got his first major league save and Seattle overcame a four-run deficit.

Cano capped the comeback with his 24th homer to right field off newly acquired Red Sox reliever Fernando Abad (1-5).

Tigers 11, White Sox 5

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera hit his third home run in two games, Victor Martinez also went deep and Detroit won its seventh straight.

Cabrera had three RBI, and Anibal Sanchez (5-12) won for the first time as a starter since April 28 -- a span of 11 starts. He allowed one run and six hits in six innings.

Cubs 3, Marlins 2

In Chicago, Jason Hammel threw six scoreless innings, Dexter Fowler had three hits and Chicago beat Miami ace Jose Fernandez.

Hammel (11-5) extended Chicago's scoreless streak to 24 innings before the bullpen overcame Pedro Strop's shaky seventh.

Phillies 13, Giants 8

In Philadelphia, Aaron Altherr had a homer and five RBI, Maikel Franco homered and went 4 for 4 and Philadelphia used a five-run eighth inning to beat San Francisco in a wild game.

Altherr broke a tie with a two-run single in the eighth, Cameron Rupp hit a three-run homer and Cesar Hernandez added four hits for the Phillies.

Reds 7, Cardinals 5

In Cincinnati, Scott Schebler's three-run homer in the ninth inning rallied Cincinnati over St. Louis.

Brandon Moss and Tommy Pham hit solo homers in the eighth for a 5-4 lead, but the Cardinals couldn't hold on.

Seung Hwan Oh (2-2) escaped a bases-loaded threat in the eighth, but gave up a pair of singles to start the ninth. Schebler connected for his second homer of the season and first game-ending shot.

Mets 7, Yankees 1

In New York, Jacob deGrom pitched seven scoreless innings, Alejandro De Aza and Travis d'Arnaud homered off Masahiro Tanaka and New York Mets' offense woke up in a Subway Series win.

Jay Bruce went 0 for 4 and took a pair of called third strikes in his Mets debut, but his new team scored its most runs since July 7 and won for the second time in seven games.

Blue Jays 2, Astros 1

In Houston, R.A. Dickey threw seven solid innings and Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion homered for Toronto.

Bautista hit his 300th career homer in the third to put Toronto up 1-0.

Dickey (8-12) allowed one run on six hits with five strikeouts.

Royals 3, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Salvador Perez hit a two-run home run in the seventh inning that carried Kansas City.

Perez's 16th homer came off Xavier Cedeno (3-3) after a single by Eric Hosmer. It lifted the Royals to their 12th win in their last 13 games against Tampa Bay.

Nationals 10, Diamondback 4

In Phoenix, Wilson Ramos hit a three-run homer to break a fifth-inning tie, leading Washington over Arizona.

Ramos connected for his 16th home run with two outs off Diamondbacks starter Robbie Ray (5-11). Chris Heisey followed with a solo shot.

Rockies 7, Dodgers 3

In Denver, Carlos Gonzalez had four RBI and three hits, Jon Gray labored through five shutout innings and surging Colorado beat Los Angeles.

Colorado has won 10 of 12 to reach the .500 mark. The surprising Rockies moved within 3 1/2 games of the second NL wild card, with three teams between them and Miami.

Pirates 5, Braves 3

In Atlanta, Jung Ho Kang doubled in the tiebreaking run in a four-run sixth inning to lead Gerrit Cole and Pittsburgh.

Matt Kemp went 0 for 4 and ended the game with a strikeout in his Atlanta debut.

Cole (7-6) struck out four and allowed seven hits, two walks and two runs—one earned—in five innings.

Twins 10, Indians 6

In Cleveland, Rookie Max Kepler homered for the fourth time in two games and Minnesota beat Cleveland after nearly blowing an eight-run lead.

Kepler hit his fourth two-run homer of the series in the third inning, two batters after Brian Dozier's two-run shot. The Twins also scored four times in the fourth against Carlos Carrasco (7-5).

Angels 5, Athletics 4

In Anaheim, Matt Shoemaker pitched seven solid innings and Jett Bandy and Jefry Marte hit home runs for Los Angeles.

Oakland starter Sean Manaea (3-6) held the Angels in check until the fifth, when shortstop Andrelton Simmons singled before Bandy drilled a two-run homer to tie it.

Brewers 3, Padres 2

In San Diego, Ryan Braun hit a tiebreaking homer in his return to the lineup, Zach Davies won for the ninth time in 10 decisions and Milwaukee beat San Diego.

Davies (9-4) limited the Padres to two runs and six hits over 5 2/3 innings. Tyler Thornburg worked the ninth for his third save.

Luis Perdomo (5-5) was charged with three runs and 10 hits in 6 2/3 innings while throwing a career-high 113 pitches.

Olympians suit up in high-tech apparel to shave seconds

AP
This photo provided by Under Armour, Inc. shows the company's uniforms for the Canadian rugby team, which borrow NASA spacesuit technology to reduce body temperature. The insides have crystal-pattern sheets to absorb heat from the body.

NEW YORK (AP)—When seconds count, the right clothing matters.

For the Rio Olympics, Nike used 3-D printing technology to develop small silicone protrusions for redirecting air flow around the runner. Body scanners helped Adidas design suits to keep swimmers in ideal form. Swiss cycling specialist Assos turned to wind tunnels to craft custom, form-fitting suits for the U.S. cycling team.

Innovations in suits and shoes have sped up, thanks to advancements in how clothing is designed and tested—all as manufacturers get creative in working around rules enacted to prevent the apparel equivalent of doping.

"We make sure we stay inside those rules, but we will get to the very edge of them if we can," said Adam Clement, senior creative director for team sports at Under Armour. "Our goal is to innovate in a way that ultimately makes the Olympic rules change. We'll adjust, but we'll feel proud of that accomplishment."

Clothing needs to be form-fitting to minimize air resistance, especially for speed events in cycling, swimming and track.

"Four seconds in four kilometers is (the difference between) first and eighth place," said Jim Miller, vice president of athletics with USA Cycling.

But the wrong materials or designs could mean discomfort and unnecessary weight -- counteracting the gains from drag reduction.

Even when speed isn't a factor, clothing promises to reduce irritations such as sweat and heat -- crucial in a hot climate like Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where the Summer Olympics open on Friday.

Clothing alone won't make up for years of training, good coaching and the right body mechanics, but the wrong kind can hurt.

"You're not going to catch magic on race day from magic shoes," U.S. marathoner Desiree Linden said in an interview. "But if I train really hard and I get a blister or don't step on my foot right, the race doesn't matter anymore."

A late introduction of Under Armour's high-tech suit for speedskating got some of the blame for the U.S. team's dismal performance two years ago in Sochi, Russia. UA said it is already testing suits for 2018 and will try to get them to competitors sooner, with more customization for individual body types.

For Rio, U.S. cyclists got their Assos suits just two weeks ago and will have the option of wearing their regular outfits if they don't like the fit.

Athletes typically get clothing and shoes as part of brand-sponsorship deals.

Running specialist Brooks turned to Linden to help design her Hyperion shoes. The shoe fabric eliminates seams to reduce the risk of blisters, while rubber rings on the bottom boost traction in slippery terrains and serve as barriers to contain and propel energy back up, according to the company.

"It feels like you do get a spring," Linden said. "There's no wasted energy. It's going right back into you. It feels fast."

Brooks started selling the shoes in June, though Linden and other Olympians will get extra laser perforations in their shoes for ventilation in Rio's heat.

Under Armour uniforms for the Canadian rugby and the Swiss and Dutch beach volleyball teams borrow NASA spacesuit technology to reduce body temperature. The insides have crystal-pattern sheets to absorb heat from the body.

As for Nike's air-resistance protrusions, the company is embedding them in track suits for about two dozen teams, including the U.S., Brazil, China and Germany. Nike will also make the protrusions available as a tape for runners to stick on their arms and legs.

Olympic, anti-doping leaders clash over Russian scandal

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Declaring that the global drug-testing system is damaged, Olympic leaders and anti-doping officials vowed Tuesday to fix the problems and prevent the type of scandal that has embroiled Russian athletes in the lead-up to the games in Rio de Janeiro.

The IOC and the World Anti-Doping Agency clashed again Tuesday over the allegations of state-sponsored doping in Russia that have rattled the Olympic movement and created chaos ahead of Friday's opening ceremony in Rio.

But both sides agreed on one thing—the need to repair the international anti-doping system and restore trust and credibility in the fight against drugs.

"This is not about destroying structures," IOC President Thomas Bach said, referring to WADA. "This is about improving significantly a system in order to have a robust and efficient anti-doping system so that such a situation that we face now cannot happen again."

Bach spoke after a debate in which International Olympic Committee members overwhelmingly backed the executive board's decision not to take the "nuclear option" of banning Russia's entire Olympic team. Bach and many members pointed fingers at WADA for failing to act sooner on evidence of state-run doping in Russia and for releasing its findings so close to the start of the games.

"I don't feel as if I've been run under a bus," WADA chief Craig Reedie told reporters, insisting that both sides were in general accord on the need to find solutions for the future.

"Somebody said this system is broken," he said. "I don't think all the system is broken. i think quite a lot of the system still works, but that certain parts of the system need revision."

Reedie said he had received assurances from officials at high levels of the Russia government that they accept they have a problem and need to fix it.

"It is absolutely essential that we cannot have the biggest country in the world non-compliant on a permanent basis," he said.

Unbeaten US basketball teams ready for Rio Olympics

HOUSTON (AP)—They have crisscrossed the country, delivering basketball blowouts from coast to coast.

Now the U.S. Olympic teams can finally take the only flight they really want.

They were to depart together Tuesday night for Brazil, a trip that's expected to lead to gold.

"This is the exciting part, knowing that we're about to go to Rio," men's star Carmelo Anthony said. "We're about to just lock in in just one location, and we can just really focus on playing basketball and getting better individually and as a group."

Anthony, at 32 the old man of the U.S. team, wasn't a fan of the early morning flights that the Americans took during their exhibition tour, as evidenced by DeMar DeRozan's Instagram video of a team singalong during one trip.

Now the teams can drop anchor and stick around in one spot—they're staying on a cruise ship along one of Brazil's beautiful beaches.

"I'm excited to see (Kevin Durant), DeMarcus Cousins, all the guys. I like them all, and it's a great group of guys," Angel McCoughtry of the women's team said following its final exhibition in New York. "I'm ready to get to know them better and continue to hang out with these girls and have a good time in Rio. This is the Olympics, it's a positive thing and we're ready to go in there and have some fun."

The men finished off their exhibition tour here Monday with a 110-66 rout of Nigeria, a game attended by the women's team after it arrived earlier in the day. After unveiling their team in New York in late June, the men reported three weeks later to training camp in Las Vegas and also played exhibition games in Los Angeles, Oakland and Chicago.

They went 5-0, averaged 102.8 points and overwhelmed their opponents by 43 per game. The road to Rio was easy, but coach Mike Krzyzewski insists the Olympics won't be.

"The competition is going to get better. I mean, really good," Krzyzewski said.

"We play two games against teams that we've beaten, but they'll be a little bit different, in China and Venezuela. And then we play Australia, who is very good. They'll probably start five NBA players. And then you play Serbia, and we know them from the world championships, with (Milos) Teodosic and their big guys. And then you play France, who will probably have eight or nine NBA players. So it goes up. It goes up, and we have to react accordingly."

The U.S. crushed China, the opponent in its opener Saturday, 106-57 and 107-57. The Americans beat Venezuela 80-45.

The women played higher-caliber opponents during their tour, which started in Los Angeles before moving to the Northeast for victories over France, Canada and Australia. They are a heavy favorite to win a sixth consecutive gold medal in Rio and have won 41 consecutive Olympic contests, with the last loss coming in the 1992 semifinals.

They gathered on July 23 and coach Geno Auriemma said Tuesday was the first real practice they've had. He plans another Wednesday after they arrive in Rio.

"So we're not as good as we're going to be, and that's kind of the way it's been for us at the Olympics," Auriemma said. "We get better as the week goes on and that's certainly been the case since the 23rd."

USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo visited the women's team at practice and addressed the players afterward, wishing them luck in Rio.

Durant and Anthony are the only players on the men's team who have played in the Olympics, while the women have much more experience playing together—some even as college teammates under Auriemma at Connecticut. But there was still plenty of learning to do on and off the court during the tour, with more still come when the games start to count.

"I think there's a level of comfort now that you can tell that we have from our first game to our last warmup game," Maya Moore said.

Cardinals, Mathieu agree to terms on big 5-year contract

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP)— The Arizona Cardinals and All-Pro defensive back Tyrann Mathieu have agreed to a five-year contract extension, a rich reward for a player once considered a high-risk draftee.

A person with knowledge of the agreement says the contract totals $62.5 million, with $40 million guaranteed. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the terms were not revealed.

The agreement, announced by the team on Tuesday night, comes despite major injuries to both of Mathieu's knees in his first three NFL seasons. He has yet to play a full NFL season.

Mathieu, known as the "Honey Badger" to his multitude of fans, sent a tweet earlier Tuesday that said simply, "blessed."

The agreement is further evidence of his remarkable rise after being out of football for a season following his dismissal from LSU for marijuana-related offenses.

Mathieu was considered a risk when the Cardinals chose him in the third round (69th overall) in the 2013 draft, but he quickly developed into one of the team's top players and evolved into a vocal leader with no off-field issues.

Mathieu's first contract had $800,000 guaranteed with a multitude of drug tests, but much of the money was spread over four seasons because of concerns about his earlier problems.

The new contract would be the largest for a safety in NFL history. Although he is listed as a safety and earned All-Pro honors at that position, Mathieu had more plays at cornerback last season. Basically, he's a do-everything defensive back.

AP

All-Pro defensive back Tyrann Mathieu, right, have agreed to a five-year contract extension with the Arizona Cardinals.

It was unclear whether the contract had contingencies if Mathieu suffers further serious injuries. The guarantee may be unprecedented for a young player who had undergone two knee surgeries in such a short period of time.

Mathieu tore his left ACL and LCL on a brutal hit against St. Louis in December of his rookie season and tore his right ACL in a non-contact injury following an interception late in a one-sided victory at Philadelphia last Dec. 20. The Cardinals' defense was noticeably less effective after losing Mathieu, who brings an emotional edge to his game as well as his considerable physical skills and instincts.

Coach Bruce Arians' voice cracked with emotion when he revealed to reporters the extent of Mathieu's injury the day after the Eagles game.

When Mathieu returned in his second season, he had difficulty adjusting to playing with a knee brace.

The second injury was far less serious, but Mathieu opened training camp last week on the physically unable to perform list.

Mathieu was to receive a base salary of $1.4 million this season. The $265,000 roster bonus that was part of his rookie deal was spread over four years.

He has become one of the most charismatic and accessible players on the team. His spirited approach to the game was prominently on display in the "All or Nothing" video series by NFL Films on Amazon.com that documented Arizona's 2015 season.

'Bike the Faith' set for Aug. 13

Bike riders and outdoor enthusiasts should prepare for "Bike the Faith," an event to celebrate Bishop-elect Ryan Jimenez's ordination and to raise funds for the CNMI Marriage Encounter and the Solomon Islands Catholic Community.

The event is set for Aug. 13 at 6am, starting at the American Memorial Park-parking lot.

Bishop-elect Jimenez explained BTF is an inter-faith event "to integrate my advocacy for healthy living for our community along with strengthening our faith."

BTF organizing members Russ and Kanae Quinn chimed in and said "in this time of divisiveness, it is great to be a part of something that brings us together, the way God intended."

BTF registration form is available at http://biketh-efaith.weebly.com and via the Facebook page. Site registration will begin at 5:30am. The starting "suggested donation" is $10. An "inspired donation" would be welcome at $20. Lastly, a "heavenly donation" where the sky is your limit is welcome for amounts above $20. Custom-designed t-shirts (thanks to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation and Saipan Apparel) will go to the first 300 registrants/donors.

BTF is not a race. It is a faith-raising fund-raising journey. The primary beneficiary is the Solomon Islands Catholic Community, our sister community with great needs to minister to our fellow Catholics there. The Marriage Encounter local program will be able to continue to advocate for healthy families with its various programs.

The bike ride is an opportunity to enjoy a ride in faith. From the AMP, the peloton will go up Navy Hill to GCA for a prayer with Pastor Ray Kinsella. We then roll to Kristo Rai Church for a prayer. Then we meander along Middle Road to Life in the Son Church at Gualo Rai to receive blessings with Pastor Eric Abragan. Enjoying the view of Middle Road, we go south and turn to Quartermaster onto Beach Road. Saipan Community Church and Pastor Roger Abe await us for our beachside blessing. Then it is the final smiles from the miles to the ordination location at the Mount Carmel Cathedral for the celebration and final blessing by Bishop-elect Jimanez.

You can't ride the whole thing? So long as you register, you can meet up along the way. Safety is a priority and we appreciate the support of DPS and other volunteers along the way. Helmets, water and proper riding equipment are a must. The brighter the shirts and colors, the better! This is consistent with the Jesuit tradition that we "find God in all things." So all shapes, sizes, colors and faith are welcome under God's Grace—but safely to churches we shall go. You don't have a bike? BTF may "know somebody" so feel free to e-mail Russ and Kanae Quinn at saipanruss@yahoo.com and kanaequinn@yahoo.com.

Younger riders? Welcome but only with a parent or guardian guiding like we always do as a community. Lastly, tell a friend, make a friend. Tell a friend about BTF and make a friend at the BTF.

Perennial marathon runner and Hell rider Ben Babauta wondered aloud whether this was going to be an annual event. In response, Bishop-elect Jimenez said, "Faith, Love and Hope is the daily marathon we run with God, and so together we can do this every year right? Philippians 4:13 tells us 'Through Christ I can do all things.'"

ACES

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up an RBI to single to Nokki Saralu at the bottom of the second inning, while the Brewers other run came in the first with Manny Sablan's sacrifice fly bringing Tyrone Omar home. The Brewers went on to keep the 2-0 lead after three innings before a three-run top of the fourth moved the Aces ahead.

Leadoff batter Ben Jones handed the Aces their first run when he reached in the fourth off a Brewers' error at left field, while Lamarc Iguel scored the game-tying run, thanks to a sacrifice out from Jeremy Atalig. John Tudela, who batted third in the order, then put the Aces on top as he singled and made it home off an RBI single from Eric Palacios.

Now down, 2-3, the Brewers failed to regain the lead at the bottom of the fourth and the remainder of the game as the Aces' defense held strong. From the third to ninth inning, the Brewers were in a scoring position only once with Byron Kaipat eventually left stranded at third and Pat Alepuyo at first at the bottom of the seventh after Diego Camacho went down on a 6-3 putout play.

At the top of the eighth, the Aces increased their lead when Lamarc Iguel's single drove Jones home and the eventually winners completed the Game 1 upset against the second-seeded Brewers after forcing the defending champions to a 1-2-3 inning in the last two. The Aces caught three fly balls, booted out two batters off 5-3 and 6-3 putout plays, and Mike Iguel struck out Pete Sablan.

Meanwhile, last night's Game 2 of the semis series between the pennant champions Chalan Kanoa Bears and Titanium was called off due to heavy rains and will be played tomorrow. The Bears won Game 1, 10-9, extending their winning run to 15 after a 14-game sweep of the regular season.

WANTED

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perman" Ambrose meeting Trench Tech's Ken "Kamakazi" Tanzawa.

In the supporting MMA bouts, the following are included in the fight card: Gerard "The Killa" Quichocho vs Giovanni Taitingfong; "Sugar" Sean Castro vs Feric "The Medic" Aguon; Bradlee Manalo vs Victor Taitano; Willdon "The Beast" Camacho vs Blaise Delos Santos; Ko "Pak Pak" Palacios vs Ray "Major" Duenas; Juan Lizama vs Jones Langu; Joey Crisostomo vs Vince Torres; James Rego vs Ken Santos; and Don Rasa (Ground Fu Guam) vs Mark "The Dark" Nuique.

Meanwhile, ROP 20 also has five standby fighters. They are "Tabi" Jay Muna, Roman Alvarez, Austin Petrus, Calvin Castro, and Peju Camacho.

For interested fighters or more information, contact Cuki Alvarez at 783-4MMA. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

JOEL

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of Cruz's output.

Cruz drilled 4 of Jonah's last 6 points in the first half to give his team a double-digit advantage, which ballooned to as high as 36 points as the lefty gunner remained on fire in the second half.

Three Jonah players backed up Cruz and helped Jonah cruise past Ezra. Sam Darag was one of them after scoring 14 points, while Joshua Cabrera and Chino Ponce were the two others, contributing 10 each.

Santiago led Ezra with his 18 markers, while Christian Buno and Art Borromeo chipped in 15 and 10, respectively.

With the loss, Ezra will just play in the battle for third place match against Nahum on Aug. 11. Jonah and Joel, on the other hand, will collide in the winner-take-all finale on Aug. 13 at 6pm.

Joel leaned on quarterback Andrew Palino and wingman Jordan Ocaya to thwart Nahum, which once led the former, 42-39, late in the first half before losing the driver's seat at the break. Palino recorded a game-high 28 points, while Ocaya tallied 25 markers. The duo teamed up for 8 points in Joel's 12-3 windup in the last three minutes of the first half to give the eventual finalist a 51-45 halftime edge.

Palino picked up where he left off, dropping 10 straight markers midway in the second half, while Ocaya finished what the former started, registering 6 of Joel's last 7 markers to eliminate Nahum.

Hao Yu Chen had 27 markers for the ousted Nahum, which drew 20 and 19 points from Chris Sacdalan and Emmanuel Cobacha, respectively. David Cai chipped in 12, with his 3-point shooting in the first half keeping Nahum in the game before he was held to one field goal in the second.

Meanwhile, the playoff round in the adults division of the Gen Cup will begin today with the top-ranked Samuel taking on the last-seeded Isaiah in the first game at 6:30pm and the No. 4 Ezekiel meeting No. 5 Caleb in the second match at 8pm.

First Game

Joel 88 — Palino 28, Ocaya 25, Cruz 10, Elchico 9, Ibanez 6, De Leon 5, Ocanada 5.

Nahum 78 — Chen 27, Sacdalan 20, Cobacha 19, Cai 12.

Scoring by halves: 51-45, 88-78.

Second Game

Jonah 89 — Cruz 47, Darag 14, Ponce 10, Cabrera 10, Marcellana 4.

Ezara 57 — Santiago 18, Buno 15, Borromeo 10, Sumpay 7, De Jose 4, Guevarra 3.

Scoring by halves: 38-26, 89-57.

2016 TRAC Summer Sportsfest

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

From left, Manny Sitchon, Nap Dizon, Von Adrian Libayan, and Florence Antonio pose for a photo during the awards ceremony for the triathlon event in last Sunday's 2016 TRAC Summer Sportsfest in Marpi.

From left, Goat Rodeo's Neda Farsan and Claire and Jeremy Devey are all smiles after receiving their third place medals in the triathlon mixed relay division.

Korea C members pose for a photo after getting their runner-up medals.

Women's 10K run champion Sakiko Eda, right, is joined by runner-up Rowena Sison for a photo.

21K MTB race top placer
Bob Ferrer is flanked by runner-up Mark Isip, left, and third finisher Ding Ramos.

Finishers in the 21K MTB race gather for a group photo.

Finishers in the 60K road bike race pose for a photo.

Finishers in the relay division of the triathlon event pose with their medals.

A-Rod's time with Yanks could be nearing an end

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Olympians suit up in high-tech apparel to shave seconds

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Joel vs Jonah in Gen Cup finale

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Fresh from his outstanding showing in the 2016 U17 Micronesian Basketball Tournament, Jethro Cruz exploded for 47 points to power Jonah to an 89-57 rout of Ezra in their semis game in the youth division of the Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Cruz, who suited up for the silver medalist CNMI Junior Nationals in the MBT in Palau last week and was named to the elite All-Star Team of the regional tournament, led Jonah's breakaway in the second half en route to a 32-point winning margin against Ezra. He started the final half with a triple and went on to knock in four more shots from the parking lot to bring Jonah to the title match opposite Joel, which earlier in the first semis match downed Nahum, 88-78.

In the second Final Four tiff, Ezra was down by a manageable deficit at the break, 26-38, after Gerald Santiago capped the first half with his 6 straight points. He finished the opening 20 minutes of play with 12 markers, 6 short

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Joel's J.P. Cruz drives and draws a foul from Nahum's David Cai during the first half of their semis game in the youth division of the Gen Cup last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Aces stun Brewers in semis opener

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
BSI Aces catcher Virgil Secharmidal throws to pitcher Mike Iguel after catching a fly ball during Game 1 of their semis series against the GSM Brewers last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The BSI Aces pushed defending champions GSM Brewers to the brink of elimination after earning a 4-2 win in Game 1 of their semis series in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The third-ranked Aces shut down the Brewers in the last seven innings to take the series opener in their best-of-three semis affair and boost their chances for a finals appearance this season. The Luis Iguel Jr.-managed Aces will go for a sweep today in Game 2 of the short series, while the Brewers will try to salvage their season and the league championship they held for two straight years.

Mike Iguel was the winning pitcher, working the mound for nine complete innings. He struggled early, yielding five hits and two runs before finding his form in the third and allowing only two hits the rest of the game. Mike Iguel's good pitching from the third to the ninth inning was complemented by the steady hands of his teammates, who caught several fly balls.

The Aces pitcher gave

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Wanted: Fighter for title bout in ROP 20

Trench Tech is looking for an MMA fighter who will challenge Guam's Rob "The Real Deal" Wusstig for the lightweight title bout in Rites of Passage 20: Conquer at The Warehouse.

Trench Tech founder Cuki Alvarez said interested fighter have until Aug. 18 to show up and take the place of Stanley Iakopo, whose return to the eight sides has to wait for months after he sustained an injury (broken ribs) during a friendly American football game against Team Guahan last weekend.

"We're scrambling to find a replacement. Japan is on a peak season so flight and airline tickets are very high right now. Philippine fighters need visas, while the Koreans are all busy with other promos," Alvarez told *Saipan Tribune*.

"Saipan at this point doesn't have 'worthy' seasoned opponents in that weight class. Shane, Roman, Jordan, Vince, and others are competing in lower weight classes," he added. "Guam fighters? Most of them are training partners and friends or have already fought each other, so it's kind of hard to find matches, not to mention with the last minute time frame, they aren't ready."

Without an opponent for Wusstig, ROP 20, which is set for Aug. 19, maybe down to 14 fights, but Alvarez said all matches are still action-packed with one title bout and a co-main event featuring Frank "The Crank" Camacho and Korean Hyun Joo Kim.

The bantamweight title match between Won Jun Jang of Korean Top Team and Spike 22 Guam's Ricky Camp is still a go and will be supported by three kickboxing bouts and nine other MMA duels.

Don "The Body Builder" Mendiola and Alfred "The Real Steal" Santos will open the K1 hostilities in ROP 20, while the other kickboxing pairings will have Genki Gym Japan's Hayashida Yuuma challenging Trench Tech's Jordan "The Machine" Manglona and Spike 22's JJ "Su-

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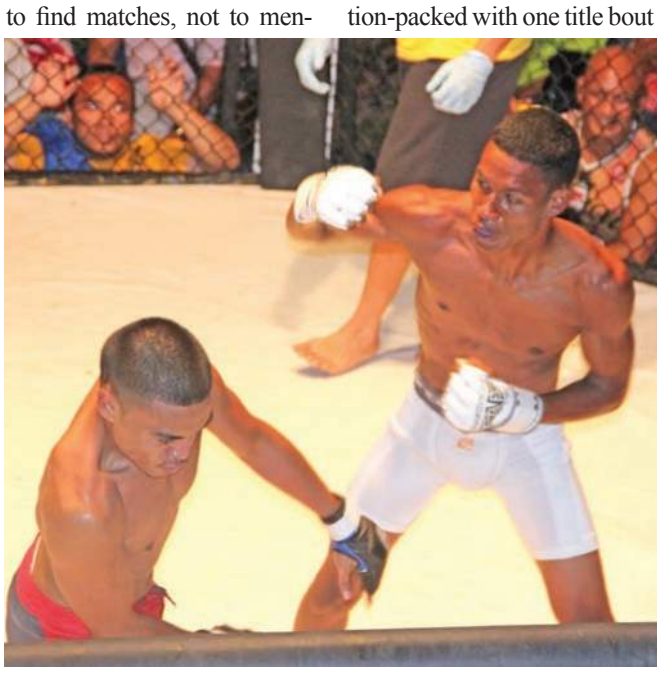

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jordan Manglona, right, connects a shot to the face of his opponent during a kickboxing bout in an earlier Rites of Passage event at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.